

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 2004

U.S. SENATE,
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,
Washington, DC.

The subcommittee met at 2 p.m., in room SD-138, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Hon. Ben Nighthorse Campbell (chairman) presiding.

Present: Senators Campbell, Stevens, and Durbin.

U.S. SENATE

OFFICE OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER

STATEMENT OF HON. WILLIAM H. PICKLE, SERGEANT AT ARMS

ACCOMPANIED BY:

KEITH KENNEDY, DEPUTY SERGEANT AT ARMS

CHRIS DEY, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL

Senator CAMPBELL. The subcommittee will come to order. We meet this afternoon to take testimony from Senate Sergeant at Arms Bill Pickle, and the Capitol Police Board, currently chaired by House Sergeant at Arms Bill Livingood and the Chief of Police Terrance Gainer.

We will first hear from the Sergeant at Arms. Mr. Pickle is accompanied by the Deputy Sergeant at Arms, Keith Kennedy, and his Chief Financial Officer, Chris Dey, along with a team of others. We welcome you here today.

The Sergeant at Arms' budget request totals \$187 million, a 3 percent increase over last year. This modest overall increase reflects the final year of funding for several major projects in fiscal year 2004, such as the recording studio project and the digital technology migration project. Your salary budget, as I understand it, would increase about 10 percent over fiscal year 2004.

Following the Sergeant at Arms, we will take testimony on the Capitol Police budget. The Capitol Police request totals \$291.6 million and total of 2,361 staff, which is a large increase, 33 percent over the fiscal year 2004 appropriation. That one will be a little tougher to deal with.

In addition to the Capitol Police's own appropriation, \$40 million is included in the Architect's budget for the Capitol Police buildings

and grounds, including a new firing range and an off-site delivery facility.

We will need to make some tough choices this year, as all of us know, but I look forward to hearing your testimony. I might tell you that I did read your testimony so you do not need to read it again to me. I can read most of the words, and if you will abbreviate that would be fine with me. I'd like to turn it to a ranking member, Senator Durbin.

SENATOR DURBIN'S STATEMENT

Senator DURBIN. Thank you very much, Senator Campbell. I ask that my entire statement be made part of the record.

Senator CAMPBELL. We will put it in the record.

Senator DURBIN. And I'd like to commend Mr. Pickle; he did an excellent job with a very, very difficult assignment on the computer theft which we experienced in the Senate Judiciary Committee. I thought you demonstrated professionalism, non-partisanship, just what we expect from you.

Mr. PICKLE. Thank you.

Senator DURBIN. I commend you for that and all of those who worked with you. It was an exceptional effort with a very, very difficult assignment. I'll be asking a few questions about that when I get the opportunity.

PREPARED STATEMENT

Chief Gainer, good to see you again, along with the Capitol Police. And thank you and all of the men and women who serve us so well, put their lives on the line every day for us here at the Capitol.

Chief GAINER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[The statement follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF SENATOR RICHARD J. DURBIN

Mr. Chairman, thank you for scheduling today's budget oversight hearing on the Senate Sergeant at Arms and the U.S. Capitol Police Board.

First of all, I want to thank our witnesses, Mr. Pickle, Mr. Livingood, and Chief Gainer for joining us today to review your fiscal year 2005 budget requests.

Mr. Pickle, last November when I discovered that some documents stored on my Judiciary Committee staff's computers were taken from them and published in the Wall Street Journal, I asked you to begin a Sergeant at Arms investigation into the potential security breach. You did so almost immediately. Your staff—including Capitol Police—worked around the clock to secure the committee's computer servers to preserve the evidence and interviewed dozens of staff.

I want to commend you for the professional and expeditious way that you have handled the investigation, and your willingness, as demonstrated in the report, to follow the facts wherever they led you.

However, during your investigation, you came to realize that all of the Senate committees' systems were set up in essentially the same way, with similar vulnerabilities in place. I hope that very aggressive steps are being taken to assure that this does not happen again.

On another note Mr. Pickle, I had the opportunity to meet with Greg Hanson of your staff last week to discuss the technology available to us here in the Senate. It was very informative and I appreciated his updating me on this issue. As you know, I'm concerned that we are behind the House when it comes to technology. With the increased use of the internet, our constituents are able to get in touch with us much more quickly and easily. In my office, we receive close to a million emails a year. We need to be able to come up with a system that allows us to respond to this volume of email in a timely matter.

In this regard, I noticed in your fiscal year 2005 request that you are asking for \$10.3 million for three-year funding for purchase of computer equipment. I'd like to hear a little more about that.

I hope you will address the current status of the perimeter security upgrades. I'm interested to know if this project is on schedule and on budget.

I'd also like to hear about the status of the proposed Mail Processing Facility/Warehouse and whether a site has been selected to house this facility.

I hope you will talk a little bit about the security upgrades for our state offices and when we can expect to see these upgrades occur.

Overall your request of \$186.6 million, or 3.1 percent, seems quite reasonable. We all know how difficult this year is going to be in terms of funding.

I read in your testimony that there are plans in place to distribute emergency supply kits to all Senate offices. I hope you will talk a little about the contents of these kits and when our offices will be receiving them.

Chief Gainer, welcome. It is good to see you again. I see that your fiscal year 2005 budget request is \$291.6 million, an increase of 33 percent. I'm glad that you have provided us with a detailed prioritization of your request. I know that this will come in handy a little later on when we start to make some decisions with regard to funding.

There have been several organizational changes made at the Capitol Police since our last hearing. I hope you will describe for the subcommittee the changes you have made, why you have made them and how they relate to particular goals or objectives in your strategic plan.

I noted in your statement that in January your department started a Diversity Training Program. I hope you will tell us more about this training and when you expect it to be complete.

I have noticed on many occasions that the lines to get into the Dirksen and Hart Buildings are quite lengthy. It seems there should be a better way to get both staff and visitors through security and into the buildings without them having to wait in such long lines.

I hope you will update us on the progress of procuring an off-site delivery facility. I understand that you might co-locate this facility with the Sergeant-at-Arms' Mail Processing Facility.

I understand that the Capitol Police and FLETC are working together on a solution that would allow the Capitol Police to have adequate use of the firing range in Cheltenham, Maryland, thus eliminating the need to procure one of your own. I hope you will elaborate on that for the subcommittee.

I am interested in your thoughts on the idea of a security fence around the Capitol and office buildings.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Senator CAMPBELL. Mr. Pickle, why don't you go ahead.

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF WILLIAM H. PICKLE

Mr. PICKLE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you for those kind words, Senator. We appreciate that.

Mr. Chairman, actually, some of your remarks stole my thunder here. I had some informal remarks to make but I'm going to cut right through most of them. I'd like to submit a formal statement for the record.

Senator CAMPBELL. It will be included in the record.

Mr. PICKLE. And what I would like to affirm is we are asking for about a 3.1 percent increase in our budget. It is modest but it is important that we get this funding to complete some of the many programs and security enhancements that we have begun with the approval and the support of this committee over the previous years. As you mentioned, some of them are very important to us. The security upgrades for Members' offices, the alternate computing facility, the computer network security and in particular the secure mail and package processing protocols in our warehouse are very important to us this year for all the obvious reasons.

Last year, when I testified before this committee, I made the statement that I was very honored and pleased to have been elect-

ed as the 37th Senate Sergeant at Arms. I also discussed with the committee that my goals, and indeed the entire Sergeant at Arms' Office, our goals are to provide the very best customer service we could here to the Senate, as well as the very best security and emergency preparedness. And what we hoped to do last year was to meld and use or leverage technology to do even a better job and be as efficient and as effective as we possibly could. Well, this year our goals remain the same; we've come a long way but we have a lot more to do. Security continues to be paramount, as it has since the anthrax scare of 2001.

We have had a very challenging year, as Senator Durbin said; we had something occur that is rather unprecedented for the Sergeant at Arms Office to participate in and that was the matter of improper access to the Judiciary Committee computers. It was unprecedented in the sense that we are not staffed to conduct such an investigation. While the Sergeant at Arms is the chief law enforcement officer of the Senate, he really does not have the operational personnel or resources to do this. But thankfully we had the Capitol Police; we also went to the United States Secret Service and with the support of this committee, which was involved with us when we talked about the funding that would be needed to do the work, we completed the investigation. And I too am very proud of our staff. I think what it shows is that we are a very diverse organization, we have some very talented people, and I'm just so proud of the work that they did in this area.

The other challenge we had this year was the ricin attack on February 3, 2004. Now, this was the second attack that's occurred here in the past 3 years. The anthrax scare of 2001 shut down a Senate building for several months. Fortunately, this time, because of the response of the Capitol Police and the Sergeant at Arms Office of Emergency Preparedness, along with our colleagues and the other entities here, we were able to get the Senate office buildings back up and running within 5 days. Now, as much as I'd like to take some credit for that, I think credit really belongs to my predecessor, Al Lenhardt, the former Sergeant at Arms. Al was confronted shortly after he arrived here with the anthrax attack and because of his efforts we have in place a very sound architecture and many sound security protocols that allowed us to be very successful in dealing with this ricin attack. I think the fact that it was only 5 days speaks well for the preparations of this body. It also speaks well for this committee which has supported us as well as the Rules Committee which was there to help out.

I know I'm dwelling only on security and technology, but finally I want to close by making just a comment. We have over 800 people here in the Sergeant at Arms Office, and when you look at the Sergeant at Arms Office, my analogy is the Senate is like a small city or mid-size corporation. We have about 8,000 people who work here on the Senate side, and on any given day we have many thousands more who are tourists, guests, official visitors, so we have all the components of a city here. I think we have several dozen different little businesses within our office. The people who do the work and who make this place run, day in and day out, and who are invisible to all of us are the ones who really need to be thanked for their hard efforts this year. And I'm talking about people such

as our facilities maintenance people who keep the Capitol clean, and it's always spotless in the morning when you come in; our furniture makers who make sure all the furniture and woodwork we have is just topnotch, and our communications people, who comprise most of our staff. These people do the job day in and day out, and I'm just so proud of them.

PREPARED STATEMENT

With that, Mr. Chairman, I'm going to dispense with anything else. And I'll just be happy to take questions. Thank you.
[The statement follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF WILLIAM H. PICKLE

INTRODUCTION

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, thank you for inviting me to testify before the Committee on Appropriations. I am pleased to come before you today to report on the progress the Office of the Sergeant at Arms (SAA) has made over the past year and our plans to enhance the capabilities of the Senate in the coming year.

The SAA respectfully requests for fiscal year 2005 a total budget of \$186,701,000, which is an increase of \$5,669,000 or 3.1 percent over the fiscal year 2004 budget. This increase will enable the office to maintain the significant improvements and level of service we provided the Senate community over the past year.

This fiscal year 2005 budget request will fund the completion and support of several initiatives that are already in progress, including security upgrades for Members' state offices, the Alternate Computing Facility (ACF), enhanced communication services, secure mail and package processing protocols, and computer network security.

Last year I testified before this Committee and identified two priorities: (1) ensuring the United States Senate is as secure as possible and prepared for any emergency; and (2) accomplishing this goal through outstanding service and support, including the enhanced use of technology. The work of this office over the past year has been guided by these priorities.

In addition to the projects the SAA had planned to undertake and invest in this past year, we faced unique challenges requiring that resources be used to meet immediate, unanticipated needs. The ricin incident and the Judiciary Committee's request to conduct an internal investigation are two examples of such challenges. This testimony will detail later the work of the SAA staff in responding to the ricin incident.

The Committee on the Judiciary's request for the Sergeant at Arms to conduct an internal investigation into whether there was unauthorized access to the Committee's computer system was unprecedented. We were able to respond quickly to this request and to assemble an investigative team that included trained investigators detailed from the U.S. Secret Service and outside forensic experts. The sensitive nature of this matter required almost full-time involvement of several of our senior managers. The investigation and forensic analysis took almost four months and required a significant amount of personnel and financial resources.

In our response to the ricin incident and the investigation for the Judiciary Committee, we met the needs of the Senate and accomplished the tasks set before us. In the past year we have also moved forward in a number of crucial areas.

An outstanding senior management team led the efforts of the SAA's dedicated staff over the past year. This team consists of Deputy Sergeant at Arms J. Keith Kennedy, Assistant Sergeant at Arms for Security and Emergency Preparedness Chuck Kaylor, Assistant Sergeant at Arms for Police Operations Al Concordia, Assistant Sergeant at Arms for Operations and Administrative Assistant Rick Edwards, General Counsel Lynne Halbrooks, and Assistant Sergeant at Arms and Chief Information Officer J. Greg Hanson. This team has worked to develop and implement a comprehensive approach to Senate projects. The many accomplishments set forth in this testimony would not have been possible without their leadership and commitment.

This testimony highlights some of our achievements over the past year, and demonstrates how we plan to build on our accomplishments and to protect the Senate's interests. Specifically, this testimony identifies (1) the security measures we have

implemented and are working toward; (2) initiatives designed to keep the Senate at the leading edge of technology; and, (3) highlights of the critical operational support we offer the Senate.

A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO SECURITY AND PREPAREDNESS

I am pleased to report that in the areas of security and emergency preparedness we expanded on the significant accomplishments of my predecessors, and particularly on the strong foundation that Sergeant at Arms Alfonso E. Lenhardt implemented to protect the Capitol and Senate Office Buildings after the anthrax attack in 2001.

The Senate now has in place an overall security strategy that establishes a layered defense based upon our understanding of threats to the Capitol and its vulnerabilities. Over the past year, this strategy led to updated security plans, created prevention and protection programs, and created life-safety, emergency preparedness, and information security programs. The strategy also led to training to educate staff and exercises to rehearse and evaluate our plans.

The SAA has relied on the strong support of the Secretary of the Senate, this Committee, the Committee on Rules and Administration, and other Committees and Members to advance the Senate's security and emergency preparedness. A comprehensive approach to these critical subjects has required the partnership and cooperation of Senate offices, the U.S. Capitol Police, the Attending Physician, other legislative branch offices, as well as federal and state agencies.

Together, we have made significant progress on our security and emergency preparedness.

Despite the substantial advances in security and emergency preparedness since September 2001, and particularly this past year, we cannot become complacent. The Capitol and Congress remain targets to those wishing to cause our country harm, and the means to cause that harm are available, varied, and growing in sophistication. We need to be vigilant, and we need to continue our comprehensive, forward-looking security and emergency preparedness programs.

This testimony outlines the SAA's security, emergency preparedness, and continuity of operations and government efforts. In addition to the initiatives set forth below, there are other steps being taken to secure Congress and the Senate community that are not appropriate to address in an open forum.

Vulnerabilities and Threat Assessments

Understanding the threats the Senate faces is essential to establishing appropriate and cost-effective security programs. We work with the U.S. Capitol Police on an aggressive approach to security that recommends and supports ongoing security projects. We are participating in several studies that address vulnerabilities around the Capitol relating to land-based and airborne threats, as well as chemical, biological, and radiological threats. The SAA also works with the U.S. Capitol Police to provide analysis of emerging global threats, current intelligence information, analysis of vulnerabilities, and available countermeasures. As a result of this work, policies are being developed in conjunction with the U.S. Capitol Police that provide high levels of protection on Capitol Hill for Members, staff, and visitors. These coordinated efforts with respect to vulnerability and threat assessment include:

Vulnerability Assessments.—Since 1998, the U.S. Capitol Police Board has conducted seven formal vulnerability assessments of the Capitol complex. These assessments serve as the basis for many of our protective measures. The assessments complement our work with the National Capital Region intelligence sharing initiatives for a complete view of the threats to the Capitol.

Command Center.—Over the past year, the U.S. Capitol Police have established a state-of-the-art command center and campus-wide security network that significantly improve their situational awareness. This provides information in a number of areas, which enables the police to better understand an event and better manage the necessary response. SAA staff work closely with the Capitol Police at the Command Center during emergencies.

Threat Intelligence Sharing.—The U.S. Capitol Police Board has approved the U.S. Capitol Police participation in the Targeted Violence Information Sharing System (TAVISS), a pilot program for sharing threat intelligence information. Created by the U.S. Secret Service to facilitate the sharing of threat information with twenty-seven agencies, this program will provide timely information about threats against Members of Congress and U.S. Government officials. Research has shown that people who attack public officials often switch targets, so subjects who come to the attention of one agency may be known to other agencies.

To provide more intelligence information, the U.S. Capitol Police have officers assigned to critical National Capital Region intelligence collection and analysis and

command centers. The U.S. Capitol Police also have a small but highly professional intelligence staff that collaborate with their counterparts, and participate in the national forums that provide the situational awareness we need.

Air Security.—The U.S. Capitol Police are integrated fully in interagency air security coordination planning for the National Capital Region and the National Capital Region Coordination Center. This planning integrates multi-agency assets into a protective air security system that encompasses the Capitol. The National Capital Region Air Security Plan focuses on countering terrorist threats from the air. The coordination uses multi-agency capabilities that involve intelligence, law enforcement, and Department of Defense assets. Early warning and situational awareness has:

- Enhanced detection of potential air threats.
 - Improved dissemination of inter-agency intelligence information.
 - Streamlined coordination of multi-agency assets to achieve command and control.
 - Differentiated navigational errors and civil violations from hostile intent.
- The threat environment is always changing, but we have the people and organizations in place that understand the needs of the Senate and can provide the information necessary to ensure the continued security of Members, staff, and visitors.

Protecting the Senate's Physical Assets

The first priority of the SAA's security strategy is to deter or prevent an incident. Our expanding protective measures program includes physical security measures, electronic systems, and law enforcement activities. It continues to improve the Senate's ability to prevent incidents. Many of the details of this program are confidential and sensitive. However, several of the significant protective measures that have been implemented are set forth below.

Enhanced Perimeter Security Plan.—The first phase of the perimeter security plan, proposed in 1998, was completed in 2002. The Enhanced Perimeter Security Plan, developed after September 2001, is now being implemented. The Enhanced Perimeter Security Plan features pop-up barriers and bollards, hardened police kiosks, improved security at vehicle access checkpoints, increased U.S. Capitol Police roving patrols, and other enhancements. It also includes improved screening procedures for visitors entering the Senate Office Buildings and the Capitol. The Capitol Police Board is working to establish more comprehensive and visible identification protocols to manage visitors better, particularly in the Capitol.

Capitol Visitor Center.—The Capitol Visitor Center remains an important focus of our security program. In 2000, almost three million people visited the Capitol and during peak season over 18,000 people visited the Capitol each day. In addition, delivery vehicles move tons of equipment, food, and other material into and out of the Capitol every day. These deliveries are essential to Congressional operations, but they also create risks to the Capitol complex. The Capitol Visitor Center will improve our ability to screen everything and everyone coming into the Capitol, and will enhance the public's access and experience while visiting the Capitol.

The Visitor Center will include a remote delivery-vehicle screening facility for all deliveries to the Capitol. The facility will make it easier to deliver goods to the Capitol and safer to accept those goods. The design incorporates blast-resistant features and systems that will minimize the risk of airborne hazards within the Capitol Visitor Center and the Capitol.

Once the Visitor Center is completed, the public will have just as much access to the Capitol, only through fewer access points. There will be enhanced screening and control of everyone and everything that enters the building. Screening will take place in the Visitor Center instead of near the Capitol doors, and, because of the design of the access points, the screening will make it easier to isolate and remove individuals who pose a security threat.

Parking and Traffic Management.—Construction of the Capitol Visitor Center, the implementation of the Perimeter Security Plan, and other construction activities have created parking and traffic management challenges.

To address the parking challenges, we made use of our existing resources and created 359 parking spaces proximate to the Capitol and Senate Office Buildings. This saved lease expenses of \$1 million annually, or approximately \$2 million to date. The parking is secure, near the Capitol, and convenient for Senators and staff.

Because the traffic that flows past the Senate Office Buildings and the Capitol directly affects the security of the Senate, the SAA staff worked with the Architect of the Capitol, the U.S. Capitol Police, and the District of Columbia's Department of Transportation to ensure the safety of Members, staff and visitors to the Senate and simultaneously minimize the traffic impact of construction projects. Much of the construction is limited to nights, weekends, and off-peak hours to reduce the impact

on traffic. The direction of one-way traffic is shifted to accommodate commuting in the morning and evenings. U.S. Capitol Police officers are stationed at major intersections to maintain traffic control and pedestrian safety.

State Office Security.—While many of the recent security efforts focus on Capitol Hill, Members' state offices continue to be a focus for the SAA. During the past year and a half, SAA staff have conducted comprehensive, on-site security assessments of the 430 state offices. Besides completing assessments of existing offices, a system has been implemented to assess each newly-established office.

The assessments provide the SAA an understanding of each state office's security needs and enable us to make recommendations, help the state office prioritize its needs and, ultimately, improve security. Each Member's Washington, D.C., office has the results of their state office assessments and the SAA's recommendations. We are working with each office to determine how to proceed to implement appropriate physical security upgrades.

This state office security project involves physical modifications to offices, installation of physical security systems in offices, and staff training. It is ongoing and multi-year, and the initial focus has been on state offices in commercial spaces. The Federal Protective Service and the Federal Marshals have been consulted regarding Members' offices in federal and court buildings.

Emergency Preparedness

To enhance the Senate's emergency preparedness, the SAA is addressing all aspects of preparing for, learning about, and responding to emergencies. Over the past year, the SAA has established notification systems, conducted training, and provided emergency response equipment and resources. SAA staff has also worked closely with the Architect of the Capitol and the U.S. Capitol Police to test and, where necessary, upgrade the alarms, emergency equipment, and notification systems in every Senate Office Building.

The Senate continues to improve evacuation and assembly area accountability procedures by regularly conducting evacuation drills. The SAA has also worked with Senate offices to update the procedures for evacuating mobility-impaired staff and visitors. This outreach to our special needs community will continue next year.

To maintain the focus on life-safety and emergency procedures, the SAA meets weekly with the U.S. Capitol Police, the Superintendent of the Senate, and the Capitol Fire Marshal to review life-safety programs and issues. This has resulted in better emergency equipment access to the Capitol Plaza and closer involvement by the Washington, D.C., Fire Department during evacuation drills. The SAA also is engaged with the National Capital Region's emergency management experts through a number of high-level interagency and intergovernmental committees and work groups that expand the National Capital Region's preparedness.

Highlights of the SAA's efforts to better prepare the Senate community for an emergency include:

Alert and Notification Systems.—In the past two years, the Senate provided BlackBerry devices and updated electronic pagers to Senators and key staff. The number of BlackBerry devices in use at the Senate continues to expand. Every office has a Senate "Group Alert" telephone system and approximately 1,000 telephones throughout the Senate are connected to the System.

Last year, wireless annunciators were added as a component of the emergency notification system. These wireless devices have been placed in every office. The U.S. Capitol Police use the annunciators to provide audible alerts of an incident, instructions on appropriate action, and additional information as an event unfolds. Annunciators supplement the Group Alert telephone system, the building fire alarms, the public address system, and other emergency notification devices.

The SAA is in the process of testing a newly installed, more capable automatic voice and text notification system that supplements the existing U.S. Capitol Police Dialogic system. Once this system is fully operational, it will be able to automatically call and send text alerts to predesignated individuals more quickly than in the past.

Training.—Over the past year, the SAA created and delivered training courses that cover a wide range of emergency preparedness issues. There have been 172 training sessions providing life-safety information to over 5,700 individuals. This training included: in-office sessions tailored to the emergency preparedness needs of each office, new staff and intern orientations that review emergency systems and procedures for all new staff, monthly emergency preparedness updates, and off-site training on the use of fire extinguishers.

Special topic seminars were conducted by SAA staff on evacuating Washington, D.C., evacuating people with disabilities, and sheltering in place. Training was also conducted for U.S. Capitol Police officers and Senate office personnel regarding evac-

uation procedures for mobility-impaired staff members. And, in coordination with the U.S. Capitol Police, the SAA helped train 6,770 individuals about the proper use of escape hoods. This training gives every participant the chance to don a training hood.

Emergency Equipment.—Almost 19,000 escape hoods, which provide protection against airborne hazards, are deployed in Senate offices and at cache sites throughout the Capitol and in Senate Office Buildings. Last year, hoods were distributed to every office. This year, escape hood cache locations were established in restaurants, hallways, near elevators, in the Capitol, and other public areas. These cache locations are quickly accessible to staff and visitors. This past year the SAA conducted the first full inventory of all the escape hoods issued to offices. Over the next year, options will be evaluated for replacing the escape hoods in anticipation of replacing the current hoods at the end of their shelf life in fiscal year 2006.

Last fall, in consultation with Senate offices, the SAA developed an emergency supplies kit that will be useful to offices in any emergency. The SAA plans to issue the kits and provide training to the Office Emergency Coordinators this spring.

Continuity of Operations and Government

This past year the SAA and the Secretary of the Senate developed and published the *Senate Continuity of Operations and Continuity of Government Planning Guide* that provides strategic guidance and a framework for developing comprehensive, integrated Senate Continuity of Operations and Continuity of Government plans. The SAA and Secretary of the Senate worked closely with all affected legislative branch agencies to ensure the plans, which are part of each office's emergency plan, are supportable and coordinated. Other initiatives the SAA has been, and will continue to be, involved in that are designed to meet the need for strong continuity of operations and continuity of government planning include:

Senate Office Planning.—The SAA participates in the review and update of the Senate's Continuity of Operations plans each Congress. Most Member and Committee offices now have their own Continuity of Operations plans in place. They have established alternate operating sites, have laptops and other equipment for these sites, and have backed up their essential data and other records so the sites are ready to use. Many offices activated their plans during the ricin incident and are now improving those plans. The SAA will continue to help offices prepare, review, and update their internal plans and procedures.

The SAA's Continuity of Operations planning support was extended to state offices this past year through a Web-based planning software application. The application helps Members' state offices create their plans, and enables Members' Administrative Managers to oversee those plans to ensure they fit within the office's overall office Continuity of Operations plan.

Briefing Centers and Alternate Chamber.—The Senate has established Briefing Centers and Alternate Chamber locations for use in emergency circumstances. Over the past year, the SAA continued to enhance its ability to support these locations, as well as Member office and Committee operations. During this time, two Briefing Centers were completed. The Centers provide temporary, protected locations where the Senate can account for membership; where Leadership, Senate Officers, and the U.S. Capitol Police can communicate with Senators; and where communications capabilities are available to Senators. A third Briefing Center is nearing completion.

Two years ago, a primary Alternate Chamber was established on Capitol Hill. Final modifications to that facility were made this past year and it is fully operational. A secondary Alternate Chamber location has also been selected off Capitol Hill. This facility is available now and final modifications are being made. Work to establish a second Alternate Chamber site off Capitol Hill will continue this upcoming year.

Exercise of Emergency Plans.—This past year was the second full year of an active program that ensures that we regularly rehearse and evaluate all aspects of our emergency plans. The SAA's exercise program focuses on evaluating new facilities and capabilities as they become available. In the first year, the ability to activate, relocate to, and operate out of our primary Briefing Center and the Capitol Hill Alternate Chamber location was tested.

This past year, exercises were conducted for using a second Briefing Center location and the off-site Alternate Chamber. These exercises included tabletop reviews of all aspects of the plans and procedures, and full exercises of the facilities. They included the U.S. Capitol Police Command Center and the Sergeant at Arms and Secretary of the Senate's Emergency Operation Center. The exercises also tested the transportation to each facility, support of each facility, and communications between the facility and the Command and Operation Centers. The program exercises life-

safety responses as well as emergency operations. A similar protective measures exercise of the Senate Chamber was also conducted recently.

This upcoming year, the operations of the Emergency Operations Center will be exercised and a tabletop exercise of the Alternate Computing Facility will be conducted. In addition, quarterly evacuation drills and monthly tests of the emergency communications systems will continue.

The Ricin Incident

The discovery of ricin in the Dirksen Senate Office Building on February 2, 2004, brought to test the emergency planning work done by the Senate in the last two years. The response was a collaborative effort. SAA staff worked with the U.S. Capitol Police, the Committee on Rules and Administration, the Office of the Secretary, the Office of the Attending Physician, and numerous other agencies and organizations, to support Senate operations even though all three Senate Office Buildings were closed.

The closure of the Senate Office Buildings required the activation of the SAA Continuity of Operations plan to support Senate, Member, and Committee operations. In cooperation with the Secretary of the Senate and Committee for Rules and Administration, the SAA established limited alternate space and services for Member and Committee operations. By the morning of February 4, 2004, space and operating capabilities were available for all Member and Committee offices that needed it. Offices were able to borrow equipment they needed from the SAA. Information hotlines and backup systems worked well under the circumstances. Assistance was also provided to Member offices to transfer their telephones to other offices to ensure constituents' calls were answered.

The support of the Committee on Appropriations was instrumental in implementing the systems and processes that helped the Senate respond successfully to this ricin event. Because redundant technology was available, the Senate offices were able to continue to conduct business even when they were unable to access their offices.

The feedback we received during and after the response to the incident will help improve our response to future incidents. Of primary concern is the need to improve notification processes and procedures. This incident demonstrated that a solid technical infrastructure is in place to ensure timely notifications, but the processes and procedures need improvement. We will continue to work with the U.S. Capitol Police and the Senate community to ensure effective notification in the event of an emergency.

Following the ricin incident, it was necessary to implement new mail processing procedures. Over two years ago, the Legislative Branch Mail Task Force (consisting of representatives from the scientific and medical communities, the United States Postal Service, security experts, and agencies within the legislative branch) established a mail processing system to treat and test all mail coming into the Congress. The discovery of ricin in the Majority Leader's office in February mandated the need for additional protective measures in our mail processing. Science advisors and the Legislative Branch Mail Task Force recommended that envelopes and packages be opened, examined, and tested for contaminants at an off-site location. With the approval of the Senate Leadership, these new mail processing protocols were quickly implemented.

Overall, the response to the ricin incident is encouraging. The Senate Office Buildings were reopened within 5 days. The response truly was a team effort and demonstrated the importance of preparing for emergencies to ensure continuity of operations.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

This past year has seen significant advances in the area of information technology in the Senate. The addition of a Chief Information Officer to the SAA management team has facilitated the development and delivery of a technology vision, a strategy, and solutions to support the Senate and enhance its security.

The Senate's information technology infrastructure is used to complement other security efforts. Information technology is crucial to security in the Senate and to the Senate's ability to accomplish its day-to-day activities. With a strong emphasis on providing advanced technology capabilities and outstanding customer support to the Senate, the SAA is adopting a comprehensive approach to delivering technology solutions and services. This approach focuses on evaluating and implementing effective technology to help the Senate conduct its business.

The SAA is developing an information technology strategy that will be implemented in the coming year. The strategy will address the Senate's need for mobility,

flexibility, and redundancy in information and telecommunications systems and will specifically address the requirements that:

- Members and staffs need to be informed and have the ability to track current events in near real-time.
- Members and staffs need to be secure to carry out their duties under any circumstances.
- Members and staffs need to be able to communicate among themselves and with constituents and the public.
- Members and staffs need to be able to operate and maintain Washington, D.C., and state offices.
- Members and staffs must be able to collect, analyze, manipulate, and present information.

The strategy will include a plan and a technology roadmap for the next two years. The plan and roadmap will provide guidance to the Senate on its technology decisions, and a framework for making those decisions. In conjunction with this strategy, significant work will continue this coming year on information technology initiatives relating to security, emerging technology, and customer service. Several of these critical initiatives are set forth below.

Security Initiatives

The Alternate Computing Facility (ACF).—This year, the Alternate Computing Facility was added as a major addition to the Senate's operational capability. Much of the alternate computing facility infrastructure is complete, including facility fit-out, network infrastructure, network operating center, and central computing room facilities. The facility will soon be ready to house backup servers for interested Members and Committees. A fiber optic ring is now complete in both directions providing fully redundant connectivity between the ACF and Capitol Hill. A state-of-the-art storage area network at the ACF receives up to 15 terabytes of data daily from the Capitol Hill central computing facilities. The mainframe and server hardware, telephone equipment, enterprise fax server equipment, and all associated networks are in place and are being tested. Currently, installation of a fully redundant set of primary domain controllers to support the Senate e-mail system is almost complete. The next step is to complete installation and testing of all the software and applications running on the hardware infrastructure, upgrade the power infrastructure, and complete plans to purchase the facility.

Contingency Communications.—The SAA's contingency communications program involves a number of major multi-year projects. Last year the Senate's mobile recording studio became operational. Other mobile communications assets will be delivered over the next few months. We are working to complete communication systems that integrate communications across our emergency facilities. Combined, these projects provide a significant increase in the Senate's ability to continue to operate under any circumstance.

Telecommunications Improvement and In-building Wireless Infrastructure.—To enhance security, emergency preparedness, and customer service, a comprehensive telecommunications improvement plan is being implemented. Wireless devices, including cellular telephones and personal digital assistants (such as BlackBerry devices), have become critical telecommunication infrastructure components supporting daily Senate operations and emergency notification activities. The in-building wireless initiative will provide a Senate-owned wireless infrastructure integrating services from all cellular telephone carriers, BlackBerry devices, and wireless local area networks (LANs). Due to this innovative approach, which will lease infrastructure bandwidth back to the cellular telecommunications carriers, this program will pay for itself in less than five years while providing full cellular, BlackBerry, and wireless LAN connectivity across the entire Senate campus. In addition to the in-building wireless initiative, an analysis of telecommunications requirements is being conducted that will lead to a complete overhaul of our voice and data networks and services over the next several years. The first task in the analysis phase of this large project is already underway.

Deployable Communications Assets.—Mobility and flexibility are fundamental to successful continuity of operations and continuity of government planning and execution. The goal of this office is to make it possible for Members and their staffs to communicate and process data from almost anywhere at any time if they have to relocate. A variety of technologies and capabilities is being developed to provide mobility and flexibility options. Two state-of-the-art communications vehicles are being deployed that will allow us to establish the Senate's information infrastructure almost anywhere. Satellite, radio, and local area network and wide area network facilities currently are being integrated in each of these communications vehicles with full operational capability planned for later this year. Next year's Con-

tinuity of Operations and Continuity of Government exercises will incorporate these vehicles.

Emergency Operations Coordination Prototype.—To support security and emergency operations, we are working with the U.S. Capitol Police to develop a prototype emergency operations coordination system that will enable officers to update and track individuals electronically during a Capitol Hill evacuation operation. This system, which features tablet PC technology and back-end databases with full reporting capability, is currently in prototype, and will be fully operational later this year.

Information Technology Security: Defense-in-Depth.—During this past year, there has been a steep increase in cyber threats, as hostile entities attempt to attack our systems with viruses, worms, and denial-of-service attacks. The Senate's infrastructure and data are protected by continuously upgrading our defense-in-depth capability. The defense-in-depth approach includes multiple layers of defense that protect the Senate's information infrastructure at all levels, from the inside out. It includes an enterprise anti-virus program.

We expect to extend the enterprise anti-virus program to all 12,000 Senate desktop and laptop computers by the end of next year. To date, this software has been installed on 5,000 Senate computers, protecting them from viruses, worms, and denial-of-service attacks.

These security efforts have paid off; the Senate has not been successfully intruded upon from the outside and we have seen only minimal effects from the most aggressive virus and worm attacks. We are now working with office system administrators, who are responsible for the security of their office local area networks, to improve the Senate's overall security posture and enhance our ability to defend against intrusions.

Next year, as part of a comprehensive network infrastructure upgrade, it will be necessary to evaluate and upgrade the information security infrastructure in the Senate switched network by upgrading routers and firewalls. Increased intrusion detection systems, software tools, and services will complete the defense-in-depth approach to information infrastructure.

Information Technology Security: Policies, Practices, Training, and Tools.—An effective approach to information security goes beyond upgrading the information security infrastructure to include evaluating and applying best practices and information security and assurance hardware and software tools, and providing information security training for employees. Through the Information Security Policies and Practices Working Group, we are working with Members' technology staffs and the Committee on Rules and Administration to examine and improve information security practices across the Senate. Because of the increasing number of attacks the Senate faces, the SAA is also evaluating and upgrading the skills of our own information security staff.

Emerging Technologies Initiatives

One major theme that has been embraced in the Senate's information technology strategy is to identify ways that new and emerging technologies can support the Senate's priorities. We are already moving forward on this effort by analyzing trends to discern which emerging technologies will be most applicable in the Senate environment. Once promising technologies are identified, the SAA will work with interested Senate offices to pilot or prototype the technologies and prove the concepts. Following successful pilots, the technologies can be rolled out Senate wide.

New Technology and Innovation.—To elevate technology awareness, expose the Senate to the future of technology, and spur innovation, the SAA is sponsoring emerging technology events. The first Senate Emerging Technologies Conference, held in February 2004, brought experts from industry to the Senate to discuss emerging wireless technologies, telecommunications trends, knowledge management, and collaboration tools. The conference was followed by a technology fair highlighting low-cost applications that we could implement at the Senate in the near future. More emerging technology events are being planned for fiscal year 2005.

Process Improvement.—The Sergeant at Arms is creating an organization to focus on process improvement and innovation from the perspective of customer service and security. This year, the organization will perform top-down and bottom-up analyses of technology-related business processes. It will look for opportunities to innovate and will implement ways to make the Senate's technology and business processes more efficient and effective. The group will document, analyze, and improve processes such as technology project management, requests for assistance, and the Senate's systems development life-cycle.

Technology Infusion.—To move emerging technologies into the Senate environment quickly, the Office of the Sergeant at Arms is collaborating with Senate offices to develop prototype applications, consisting of subsets of target functionality. Two

such prototypes currently under development are the Office Emergency Coordinator tracking system and a knowledge management prototype. The approach is to think big, start small, and scale quickly.

Customer Service Initiatives

This office is paying special attention to how well it meets the Senate's technology needs. This effort requires the evaluation and analysis of all aspects of our information technology solutions and technology infusion and delivery programs. A survey was conducted last year that measured customers' satisfaction with technology. The survey revealed that Members and their staffs want more and better information about technology programs, a faster process for infusing new technologies, and an emphasis on looking "over the bow" toward emerging technologies and how the Senate can take advantage of these technologies in the next three years.

Customer Service, Satisfaction, and Communications.—The first step taken by the SAA to improve customer service, satisfaction, and communications was to implement an extensive customer outreach program that enables us to understand the Senate's requirements better. This program features communications through monthly information technology newsletters, quarterly project status reporting to Senate offices, participation in the Majority Leader's Information Technology Working Group, joint monthly project and policy meetings with the Committee on Rules and Administration and the Senate System Administrators Association leadership, and participation in a Hill-Wide Information Technology Group. We are also emphasizing customer service by enforcing stringent service-level agreements with our technology Help Desk contractor. This program has been extremely successful with sustained performance levels meeting or exceeding the service-level agreement (greater than 95 percent based on customer satisfaction surveys) for the past eight months.

Business Applications.—Based on input and feedback from users, it was determined that many of the business software applications supporting Members and their staffs needed to be updated. The Senate Information Services program will be modernized to provide more information from various news sources in near real-time and more comprehensive analysis of that information. The financial management systems that support the Secretary of the Senate's Disbursing Office are also being modernized and made Web-capable. We are also exploring new correspondence tracking and management systems and have added to the list of available application offerings.

Intelligence over the Net-Web Services.—One major technology focus is to move applications and processing capability to the Senate's Intranet. Flexible Web services technologies will allow the placement of many service-delivery applications to Web-ster so users can access them with a Web browser. The goal is for the Senate Intranet to evolve into a full capability portal providing Senate staff "one-stop shopping" for common business application functionality.

Secure Remote Access Options.—In addition to moving applications to the Web, this office is aggressively exploring alternate ways for Senate users to gain secure remote access to Senate information resources. In particular, biometric capabilities are being explored to add to the secure networking options already provided.

Network Upgrades and Video Teleconferencing.—To support flexibility, mobility, and improved customer service, we are expanding and upgrading the Senate's information networks. Over the next year, the Capitol Hill network infrastructure upgrade will be complete, delivering increased communications bandwidth to the desktop to support the applications of the future. This upgrade, already underway, will provide 100 megabits per second (Mbps) to the desktop and one gigabit per second (Gbps) between servers in the network. To improve communications for Members' state offices, we continuously analyze and adjust their wide area network connections and increase bandwidth as required. This flexibility allows us to support sophisticated Web services over the Internet, as well as the video teleconferencing program that is currently underway. Under the video teleconferencing program, a state-of-the-art video teleconferencing terminal will be installed at each Member's Capitol Hill office and a similar terminal at the state office of their choice.

Electronic Mail and Office Automation Applications.—The Senate Messaging Infrastructure is almost complete, with 98 percent of all offices migrated to Microsoft Exchange and Outlook. The Active Directory Messaging Architecture program, the successor to the Senate Messaging Infrastructure program, is currently in the design phase. It will allow Member and Committee offices to have choices between central and distributed management of their Exchange servers, a Senate global address list, and office servers updated from Microsoft NT4 to Microsoft Windows 2003 technology. In addition, we will continue to expand and upgrade our BlackBerry system to supplement both the Senate e-mail system and the emergency notification

systems. Moving into the next year, continued convergence of devices and the widespread use of combination cell phone and BlackBerry devices are anticipated. This office is committed to deploying systems that will allow Members more flexibility in choosing which wireless device to use for receiving emergency notifications and legislative alerts.

OPERATIONAL SUPPORT

While security and information technology initiatives are necessarily at the forefront of the SAA's efforts to serve the Senate community at this particular time in history, the core value required to execute these initiatives successfully—a commitment to exceptional customer service—has always been a cornerstone of the SAA's operational support. Over the past year, we have seen significant improvements in the operational aspects of the SAA's support to the Senate. Some of the achievements and projects outlined below are the result of better integrating technology into business practices; others originated from the need to find innovative solutions to challenges presented by the ricin incident. Regardless of the impetus for these accomplishments, they all demonstrate the hard work and dedication of the SAA operational staffs.

Senate Post Office.—The Senate Post Office delivered nearly 19 million safe articles of mail to the Senate community during fiscal year 2003. It is our understanding that this was accomplished for approximately \$3 million less than the House of Representatives, which uses an outside contractor to handle similar volume.

One of the security improvements implemented this past year was a new package and envelope-testing site for couriers, allowing for same-day delivery of time-sensitive items. Additionally, as set forth previously in this testimony, the ricin incident in February led to the adoption of new mail protocols. This was accomplished by leveraging existing personnel and assets while improving the safety, security, and cost effectiveness of mail delivery.

Warehouse.—The need for a modern, efficiently designed warehouse facility and mail processing facility continues and, following the ricin incident, has become more critical. All mail, packages, and deliveries to the Senate must be inspected to ensure the safety of the institution. We believe that locating a new warehouse adjacent to the U.S. Capitol Police off-site inspection facility will yield considerable security and operating benefits. The warehouse and mail processing facilities, together with planned U.S. Capitol Police initiatives, will ensure the safety and security of Senate assets and staff. The financial benefits include eliminating an estimated \$800,000 in annual recurring costs, including the outsourcing expenses for package processing that are currently being performed by a contractor.

Current warehouse facilities are geographically dispersed, environmentally inadequate for document and furniture storage and do not meet the minimum requirements of the General Services Administration. A new facility will correct these problems and enable volume discounts for Secretary of the Senate and SAA purchases. It will give a longer useful life to furniture and fixtures warehoused and provide specialized storage to meet the needs of the Senate Curator and Librarian. A new warehouse facility will ultimately benefit the whole Senate community through increased efficiency, enhanced security, and improved organization.

Capitol Facilities.—The Capitol Facilities staff continues to work around the clock to ensure that the environment within the Capitol is clean and professional. With a new management team and a fresh look at key processes, the appearance of the Capitol has significantly improved. Among the staff's many accomplishments this past year is its successful relocation of the Secretary of the Senate's Capitol staff from basement offices, which were disrupted by Capitol Visitor Center construction, to newly developed fourth-floor office space. This move was done without interrupting the Secretary of the Senate's ability to support the legislative process.

Printing, Graphics, and Direct Mail.—The innovations in this operational area resulted in substantial cost savings to its customers. Specifically, over \$1.8 million was saved through the staff's work with Member offices on ways to address letters to ensure discounted postage rates are received as often as possible. The amount of processed mail that qualified for discounted postage this past year was 23 percent higher than in fiscal year 2002.

The use of technology in this area has enhanced customer service. Over 2.2 million documents were produced through the SAA's online ordering service, a 427 percent increase over fiscal year 2002, when the service was first implemented. Online ordering reduces errors and provides convenience and labor savings by enabling Senate offices to order printing services from their desktops.

This past year, automation also resulted in a significant increase in the Senate's ability to archive documents. By fully automating the process, the SAA was able to archive over two million documents for the Senate. This represents a 218 percent increase over the previous year with no additional staff.

Photo Studio.—The Senate Photo Studio completed its transition from film to high-resolution digital photography and its conversion to digital photo printing processes this past year. Photography and photo printing services are now being performed digitally, eliminating some chemical processes and bringing significant improvements in quality and delivery of products to our customers.

The shift to a digital operation allows staff to view photographs taken by the Senate Photo Studio immediately, on site. It also enables the Studio to e-mail high-resolution images to Senate offices, and allows offices to view images and download them. These enhancements have been received well by customers.

Senate Recording Studio.—The Senate Recording Studio remains a leader in the use of technology. Last year, the Recording Studio initiated a project to upgrade and install multimedia equipment in Committee hearing rooms, including digital signal processing, audio systems, and broadcast quality robotic camera systems. This project will continue this year.

The audio upgrades will improve speech intelligibility and provide software-based systems that can be reconfigured based on an individual Committee's needs. The upgrades also include diagnostic monitoring, which enables staff to detect and resolve problems before the problems become disruptive. For instance, if a Member is speaking at a relatively low volume, the system can more effectively raise the volume of that microphone. If a Member who is about to speak does not turn on the microphone, the Committee clerk can remotely turn it on from a computer. Even if the main electronics fail, a backup system will take over within minutes. Additionally, the system provides networking that allows the audio to be automatically routed from one hearing room to other hearing rooms for overflow purposes.

The video upgrades will include the addition of broadcast-quality television cameras. These cameras will be installed on robotic systems and can be controlled remotely from the Recording Studio. The upgrades also include cabinetry so the cameras can be concealed when not in use. Once this project is completed, the Recording Studio will be able to meet the demand for the broadcast of Committee hearings and simultaneously maintain production capabilities in the television studios.

The Senate has had the ability to search Chamber proceedings by text and listen to audio playback from desktop computers for years. In fact, the Senate was a pioneer in this area, and accomplished it in the early years of computer browsers. The next major advance will be the replacement of the audio and text browsing systems this summer with a state-of-the-art audio/text/video browsing system. This will enable Senate staff to search and play back Chamber proceedings and news programming from any computer on the Senate LAN.

This system is the result of a modernization of the Senate Recording Studio's technical plant that incorporates technology so new that it is operational in only a handful of facilities in the country. This new technology will enable the Recording Studio to record, edit, and play media without ever using tape machines, while simultaneously making the media available for online searching and streaming. In the near future, the Recording Studio plans to add Senate hearings and other media to the system.

Education and Training.—In 2003, the Senate's Joint Office of Education and Training offered 694 classes, with 6,916 Senate employees participating. Of the total number of classes offered, 309 were technical training, with 1,730 students participating. The registration desk handled 15,390 requests for training and documentation. An additional 1,126 staff received coaching on various software packages and other computer-related issues. Training was provided to almost the entire Senate community as the new Senate Messaging Infrastructure was implemented.

Over 350 professional development classes were offered last year with a total attendance of 5,117 students. Managers and supervisors are encouraged to request customized training for their offices. As a result, the staff of the Joint Office of Education and Training worked on more than 40 occasions with teams on issues related to team performance, communication, and conflict resolution. Over 1,300 Senate staff also took advantage of the 18 health events sponsored by this office.

A "State Training Fair," which was first available in March 2000, was offered three times this past year to 134 state staff members. Forty-two senior leaders in state offices also participated in the first State Directors Forum. In addition, state offices continue to be offered "Virtual Classrooms," an Internet-based training library of over 300 courses. To date, 164 state office staff, representing 59 Senators, have used the virtual classrooms.

The Joint Office of Education and Training ensures that the training designed for Senate staff meets their needs. This upcoming year particular attention will be paid to providing training to increase the Senate's awareness of information technology security. Specifically, an IT Security Awareness program for Senate staff is being developed and a course on reviewing and configuring security settings on Windows servers is ready for delivery. Existing computer security classes and documentation are being revamped, and IT security issues will be included as an integral part of our system administration classes and other classes. System Administrators will be able to receive training to maintain and enhance their skills, including new, self-paced training with mentoring for those who would benefit from more instruction and personal guidance.

Support to Other Organizations.—In addition to the support the SAA provides the Senate, we also provide significant support to organizations outside the Senate. In fiscal year 2003, the SAA performed services for other organizations costing over \$3 million without reimbursement. Most of these services support the U.S. Capitol Police and the Architect of the Capitol. However, support is also provided on occasion to the House of Representatives, and to liaison offices and other organizations located in the Senate Office Buildings. These services include printing and graphics products, maintenance of radio and network systems, telephone services (some of which are reimbursed), and computer repair and installation.

CONCLUSION

The staff of the SAA has done tremendous work to keep the Senate safe, secure, and operating efficiently. The accomplishments and vision of this office would not be possible without the active, ongoing support of this Committee and the Committee on Rules and Administration. We thank you for your support and for the opportunity to present this testimony and answer questions.

From security to technology to operational support, we are dedicated to making sure that our products and services support the Senate's mission. The appendix accompanying this testimony elaborates the specific components of our fiscal year 2005 budget request.

ATTACHMENT I

FINANCIAL PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

OFFICE OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS—UNITED STATES SENATE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

(Dollars in thousands)

	TOTALS		Fiscal Year 2005 vs. Fiscal Year 2004	
	Fiscal Year 2004 Budget	Fiscal Year 2005 Request	Amount	Percent Incr/Decr
General Operations & Maintenance:				
Salaries	\$45,789	\$50,635	\$4,846	10.6
Expenses	\$46,581	\$55,585	\$9,004	19.3
Total General Operations & Maintenance	\$92,370	\$106,220	\$13,850	15.0
Mandated Allowances & Allotments	\$56,398	\$58,129	\$1,731	3.1
Capital Investment	\$27,570	\$18,062	(\$9,508)	— 34.5
Nondiscretionary Items	\$4,694	\$4,290	(\$404)	— 8.6
TOTAL	\$181,032	\$186,701	\$5,669	3.1
Staffing	845	860	15	1.8

To ensure that we provide the highest levels and quality of security, support services and equipment, we submit a fiscal year 2005 budget request of \$186,701,000, an increase of \$5,669,000 or 3.1 percent compared to fiscal year 2004. The salary budget request is \$50,635,000, an increase of \$4,846,000 or 10.6 percent, and the expense budget request is \$136,066,000, an increase of \$823,000 or 0.6 percent. The staffing request is 860, an increase of 15 FTEs.

For the third consecutive year, we have increased funds for security initiatives. The fiscal year 2005 budget request for security is \$17,698,000, an increase of \$1,588,000 or 9.8 percent compared to fiscal year 2004. The most significant aspects of the total security request are funding security upgrades for Member state offices (\$3,650,000 in expenses); the Alternate Computing Facility (ACF) (\$1,172,000 in salaries for 17 FTEs and \$2,166,000 in expenses); enhanced communication services (\$2,300,000 in expenses); personnel and operating expenses requested for the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness (\$1,074,000 in salaries for 12 FTEs and \$2,166,000 in expenses); secure mail and package processing protocols (\$694,000 in salaries for 19 FTEs and \$2,165,000 in expenses); and network security (\$305,000 in salaries for 4 FTEs and \$1,704,000 in expenses).

We present our budget in four categories: General Operations and Maintenance (Salaries and Expenses), Mandated Allowances and Allotments, Capital Investment, and Nondiscretionary Items.

The general operations and maintenance salaries budget request is \$50,635,000, an increase of \$4,846,000 or 10.6 percent compared to fiscal year 2004. The salary budget increase is due to the addition of 15 FTEs, a 3.9 percent COLA, and merit funding. The additional staff will augment our security team, improve operations, expand services, and meet new requirements for the Senate community.

The general operations and maintenance expenses budget request for existing and new services is \$55,585,000, an increase of \$9,004,000 or 19.3 percent compared to fiscal year 2004. Major factors contributing to the increase are price adjustments and annual escalations in the IT Support contracts, \$2,583,000; increased cost of expanded intrusion detection monitoring services and software, \$1,105,000; implementation of a new real-time news service and renegotiation of all other Senate Information Services (SIS) contracts, \$860,000; management consultants and services required for security operations and planning and emergency preparedness, \$666,000; replacement of existing enterprise servers, \$565,000; replacement of wiring in the Capitol, \$500,000; increased hardware maintenance and licenses for the ACF, \$310,000; procurement of furnishings, carpeting, and window treatments for the Senate wing of the Capitol, \$238,000; support agreements for word processing and virus software, \$202,000; and increased mainframe software maintenance, \$181,000.

The mandated allowances and allotments budget request is \$58,129,000, an increase of \$1,731,000 or 3.1 percent compared to fiscal year 2004. Major factors contributing to the increase are projected increases in commercial and federal office rents, \$953,000, and maintenance and monitoring of previously installed security systems and new security installations in offices established following the 2004 elections, \$906,000. A decrease of \$294,000 in office equipment purchases in Washington D.C. and state offices partially offsets these increases.

The capital investment budget request is \$18,062,000, a decrease of \$9,508,000 or 34.5 percent compared to fiscal year 2004.

Major factors contributing to this budget request are completing the procurement of the Mail Processing Facility/Warehouse, \$7,200,000; upgrading Senate data networks and related management systems, \$2,952,000; initial design and equipment purchases for the replacement of the Capitol Hill telephone system, \$2,800,000; procurement of furnishings and equipment for the Senate side of the Capitol Visitor's Center (CVC), \$2,500,000; workflow technology hardware and software, \$400,000; backup document archiving system at the ACF, \$350,000; emergency backup storage for Members at the ACF, \$325,000; upgrading mail processing equipment, \$310,000; and testing and evaluating telecommunications equipment and products, \$250,000. Funds also are requested for several smaller printing and video projects.

Funding is no longer required for relocation of the Recording Studio in conjunction with the CVC Project and completion of Phases I, II and III for the Digital Technology Migration Project, completion of CMS projects, acquisition of the work-order system, acquisition of an ID laser printing system, acquisition of a mail sorter, and completion of the upgrade to the video conferencing project.

The nondiscretionary items budget request is \$4,290,000, a decrease of \$404,000 or 8.6 percent compared to fiscal year 2004. Major factors contributing to this budget request are contract maintenance for the Financial Management Information System (FMIS), \$2,700,000; enhancements to the Legislative Information System (LIS), \$1,220,000; and requirements definition for replacement of the Senate Payroll System, \$370,000.

ATTACHMENT II

FISCAL YEAR 2005 BUDGET REQUEST BY DEPARTMENT

The following is a summary of the SAA's fiscal year 2005 budget request on an organizational basis.

[Dollars in thousands]

Department	TOTALS		Fiscal Year 2005 vs. Fiscal Year 2004	
	Fiscal Year 2004 Budget	Fiscal Year 2005 Request	Amount	Percent Incr/Decr
Capitol Division	\$10,765	\$13,400	\$2,635	24.5
Operations	\$43,473	\$37,608	(\$5,865)	— 13.5
Chief Information Officer	\$91,781	\$99,074	\$7,293	7.9
Office Support	\$29,230	\$30,261	\$1,031	3.5
Staff Offices	\$5,783	\$6,358	\$575	9.9
TOTAL	\$181,032	\$186,701	\$5,669	3.1

Each department's budget is presented and analyzed in detail beginning on the next page.

CAPITOL DIVISION

[Dollars in thousands]

Capitol Division	TOTALS		Fiscal Year 2005 vs. Fiscal Year 2004	
	Fiscal Year 2004 Budget	Fiscal Year 2005 Request	Amount	Percent Incr/Decr
General Operations & Maintenance:				
Salaries	\$6,355	\$7,317	\$962	15.1
Expenses	\$1,666	\$2,433	\$767	46.0
Total General Operations & Maintenance	\$8,021	\$9,750	\$1,729	21.6
Mandated Allowances & Allotments	\$2,744	\$3,650	\$906	33.0
Capital Investment	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Nondiscretionary Items	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
TOTAL	\$10,765	\$13,400	\$2,635	24.5
Staffing	143	145	2	1.4

The Capitol Division consists of the Executive Office, Media Galleries and the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness.

The general operations and maintenance salaries budget request is \$7,317,000, an increase of \$962,000 or 15.1 percent. The salary budget increase is due to the addition of two FTEs, an expected 3.9 percent COLA, and merit funding for fiscal year 2005. The Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness requires two additional FTEs to direct, develop and monitor the processes and procedures needed to ensure security for the Senate and to work on the Continuity of Operations Plan.

The general operations and maintenance expenses budget request is \$2,433,000, an increase of \$767,000 or 46.0 percent, primarily for increased management consulting services for security initiatives.

The mandated allowances and allotments budget request for state office security initiatives is \$3,650,000, an increase of \$906,000 or 33.0 percent. Funding is required for the maintenance and monitoring of previously installed security systems and new security installations in offices established following the 2004 elections and consists of three-year funds.

OPERATIONS

(Dollars in thousands)

Operations	TOTALS		Fiscal Year 2005 vs. Fiscal Year 2004	
	Fiscal Year 2004 Budget	Fiscal Year 2005 Request	Amount	Percent Incr/Decr
General Operations & Maintenance:				
Salaries	\$16,349	\$17,817	\$1,468	9.0
Expenses	\$7,992	\$8,816	\$824	10.3
Total General Operations & Maintenance	\$24,341	\$26,633	\$2,292	9.4
Mandated Allowances & Allotments	\$0	\$165	\$165
Capital Investment	\$19,132	\$10,810	(\$8,322)	- 43.5
Nondiscretionary Items	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
TOTAL	\$43,473	\$37,608	(\$5,865)	- 13.5
Staffing	363	364	1	0.3

The Operations Division consists of the Central Operations Group (Printing, Graphics and Direct Mail, Parking Office, Director/Management, ID Office, Photo Studio, and Hair Care Services), Operations Administrative Services, Recording Studio, Post Office, and Facilities.

The general operations and maintenance salaries budget request is \$17,817,000, an increase of \$1,468,000 or 9.0 percent. The salary budget increase is due to the addition of one FTE to provide administrative support, an expected 3.9 percent COLA, and merit funding for fiscal year 2005.

The general operations and maintenance expenses budget request is \$8,816,000, an increase of \$824,000 or 10.3 percent. Major factors contributing to the increase are maintenance and procurement of furnishings, carpeting and window treatments for the Senate wing in the Capitol building, \$238,000; increased warehouse rent and operating expenses, \$120,000; software customizations and interfaces for the work-order system purchased in fiscal year 2004, \$100,000; increased screening costs for more secure package processing, \$100,000; replacement of miscellaneous printing/ mailing equipment, \$90,000; and maintenance on software and production equipment, \$55,000.

The mandated allowances and allotments budget request is \$165,000 to furnish Capitol offices. The capital investment budget request is \$10,810,000, a decrease of \$8,322,000 or 43.5 percent.

Major factors contributing to this budget request are completion of the procurement of the Mail Processing Facility/Warehouse, \$7,200,000; procurement of furnishings and equipment for the Senate side of the CVC, \$2,500,000; purchase of a Data Storage Server to provide emergency archival backup services for Member offices at the ACF, \$350,000; upgrades to and replacement of outdated mailing equipment, \$310,000; replacement of an outdated color printer, \$200,000; and upgrades to and enhancement of the Photo Browser database, \$200,000.

Funding is no longer required for relocation of the Recording Studio in conjunction with the CVC Project and completion of Phases I, II and III for the Digital Technology Migration Project, upgrades to the Senate Chamber Audio System, acquisition of the work-order system, acquisition of an ID laser printing system, and acquisition of a mail sorter for the Post Office.

Funding for the Mail Processing Facility/Warehouse, \$7,200,000, and the Facilities CVC project, \$2,500,000, consists of three-year funds.

CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

(Dollars in thousands)

Chief Information Officer	TOTALS		Fiscal Year 2005 vs. Fiscal Year 2004	
	Fiscal Year 2004 Budget	Fiscal Year 2005 Request	Amount	Percent Incr/Decr
General Operations & Maintenance:				
Salaries	\$16,498	\$18,395	\$1,897	11.5
Expenses	\$35,795	\$43,074	\$7,279	20.3

(Dollars in thousands)

Chief Information Officer	TOTALS		Fiscal Year 2005 vs. Fiscal Year 2004	
	Fiscal Year 2004 Budget	Fiscal Year 2005 Request	Amount	Percent Incr/Decr
Total General Operations & Maintenance	\$52,293	\$61,469	\$9,176	17.5
Mandated Allowances & Allotments	\$26,356	\$26,063	(\$293)	- 1.1
Capital Investment	\$8,438	\$7,252	(\$1,186)	- 14.1
Nondiscretionary Items	\$4,694	\$4,290	(\$404)	- 8.6
TOTAL	\$91,781	\$99,074	\$7,293	7.9
Staffing	249	254	5	2.0

The Chief Information Officer Division consists of IT Support Services, Technology Development Services, Administrative Services, Process Management and Innovation, and Information Technology.

The general operations and maintenance salaries budget request is \$18,395,000, an increase of \$1,897,000 or 11.5 percent. The salary budget increase is due to the addition of five FTEs, an expected 3.9 percent COLA, and merit funding for fiscal year 2005. IT Support Services requires three new FTEs to serve as network engineers to accommodate increased workload for emergency preparedness and telecommunication systems at alternate locations. Technology Development Services requires one FTE to serve as a senior software specialist to assist with maintenance and enhancements to the Contract Administration System and other administrative systems. Administrative Services requires one FTE to draft correspondence, proof documents, and provide executive-level assistance to the Technical Writer, the Assistant Sergeant at Arms for Security and Emergency Preparedness, the Assistant Sergeant at Arms and Chief Information Officer, and Special Projects.

The general operations and maintenance expense budget request is \$43,074,000, an increase of \$7,279,000 or 20.3 percent. Major factors contributing to this increase are price adjustments and annual escalations in the IT support contract, \$2,583,000; increased cost of expanded intrusion detection monitoring services and software, \$1,105,000; implementation of a new real-time news service and renegotiation of all other SIS contracts, \$860,000; replacement of existing enterprise servers, \$565,000; replacement of wiring in the Capitol, \$500,000; increased hardware maintenance and licenses for the ACF, \$310,000; support agreements for word processing and anti-virus software, \$202,000; increased professional services for threat assessments and disaster recovery improvements, \$190,000; increased mainframe software maintenance, \$181,000; and additional purchases of data communication equipment, \$172,000.

The mandated allowances and allotments budget request is \$26,063,000, a decrease of \$293,000 or 1.1 percent. Major factors contributing to this budget request are voice and data communications for Washington D.C. and state offices, \$17,937,000; procurement and maintenance of Members' constituent mail systems, \$4,255,000; procurement and maintenance of office equipment for Washington D.C. and state offices, \$3,181,000; and acquisition of the Appropriations Analysis and Reporting System, \$400,000. Reduced purchases of office equipment, primarily photocopiers, for Washington D.C. and state offices results in the lower budget request for fiscal year 2005. Funding for procurement and maintenance of Members' constituent mail systems, \$4,255,000, consists of five-year funds.

The capital investment budget request is \$7,252,000, a decrease of \$1,186,000 or 14.1 percent. Major factors contributing to this budget request are upgrade of the data network, \$2,952,000; initial design and equipment purchases for the replacement of the Capitol Hill telephone system, \$2,800,000; and purchase of data storage servers to provide emergency backup for Member offices at the ACF, \$325,000. Reduced funding needs for the Asset Management Upgrade Project as it moves into the maintenance phase, several CMS-related projects, the Public Key Infrastructure project, the Wireless PDA project, the Enterprise Storage Area Network project, and the Application Server Provider project result in the lower budget request for fiscal year 2005.

The nondiscretionary items budget request is \$4,290,000, a decrease of \$404,000 or 8.6 percent. Major factors contributing to this budget request are contract maintenance for the Financial Management Information System (FMIS), \$2,700,000; enhancements to the Legislative Information System (LIS), \$1,220,000; and requirements definition for replacement of the Senate Payroll System, \$370,000.

OFFICE SUPPORT SERVICES

(Dollars in thousands)

Office Support Services	TOTALS		Fiscal Year 2005 vs. Fiscal Year 2004	
	Fiscal Year 2004 Budget	Fiscal Year 2005 Request	Amount	Percent Incr/Decr
General Operations & Maintenance:				
Salaries	\$1,895	\$1,995	\$100	5.3
Expenses	\$37	\$15	(\$22)	-59.5
Total General Operations & Maintenance	\$1,932	\$2,010	\$78	4.0
Mandated Allowances & Allotments	\$27,298	\$28,251	\$953	3.5
Capital Investment	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Nondiscretionary Items	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
TOTAL	\$29,230	\$30,261	\$1,031	3.5
Staffing	28	28	0	0.0

The Office Support Services Department consists of the Customer Support, Help and IT Request Processing, State Office Liaison, and Director branches.

The general operations and maintenance salaries budget request is \$1,995,000, an increase of \$100,000 or 5.3 percent. The salary budget increase is due to an expected 3.9 percent COLA and merit funding for fiscal year 2005.

The general operations and maintenance expenses budget request is \$15,000, a decrease of \$22,000 or 59.5 percent, resulting from a reduction in travel costs and office supplies.

The mandated allowances and allotments budget request is \$28,251,000, an increase of \$953,000 or 3.5 percent, resulting from projected increases in commercial and federal office rents. Funding to purchase computer equipment for Members, Committees, Officers, and Leadership, \$10,315,000, consists of three-year funds.

STAFF OFFICES

(Dollars in thousands)

Staff Offices	TOTALS		Fiscal Year 2005 vs. Fiscal Year 2004	
	Fiscal Year 2004 Budget	Fiscal Year 2005 Request	Amount	Percent Incr/Decr
General Operations & Maintenance:				
Salaries	\$4,692	\$5,111	\$419	8.9
Expenses	\$1,091	\$1,247	\$156	14.3
Total General Operations & Maintenance	\$5,783	\$6,358	\$575	9.9
Mandated Allowances & Allotments	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Capital Investment	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Nondiscretionary Items	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
TOTAL	\$5,783	\$6,358	\$575	9.9
Staffing	68	69	1	1.5

The Staff Offices Division consists of Education and Training, Financial Management, Human Resources, and Special Projects.

The general operations and maintenance salaries budget request is \$5,111,000, an increase of \$419,000 or 8.9 percent. The salary budget increase is due to the addition of one FTE to perform compensation and classification duties, an expected 3.9 percent COLA, and merit funding for fiscal year 2005.

The general operations and maintenance expenses budget request is \$1,247,000, an increase of \$156,000 or 14.3 percent, primarily from increased professional services operating expenses and purchase of equipment and software for training programs.

EFFECT OF BUDGETARY FREEZE

Senator CAMPBELL. Thank you, Mr. Pickle. I'm going to ask you what I've asked everyone who's testified before this committee this year, and that is, how would you manage if we had a freeze, and have you prioritized your budget?

Mr. PICKLE. I'd really have to study it but I would say offhand the first thing that we would not touch would be security and emergency preparedness. Then we would look and prioritize, along with the committee's assistance, and work on those areas where we could make cuts. But certainly the security and emergency preparedness would be untouchable for me.

STATUS OF WAREHOUSE

Senator CAMPBELL. Good answer. Now, last year we provided \$6.3 million for design and land purchase for a new warehouse. Your budget request for 2005 includes an additional \$7.2 million for this same project. What's the status of that warehouse project now?

Mr. PICKLE. The actual design of the project is about two-thirds complete. But this year's ricin attack has put us back a little bit. And let me explain that. We all agree that a warehouse is very important. We're using three very obsolete facilities—they're spread out around the metropolitan area—and for many, many reasons we need to replace those three facilities with one. The ricin attack caused us to make some very fundamental changes here on the Hill in regard to mail processing. As you probably realize, we are now examining all mail before it comes on campus. What we are looking to do is, we want a partnership with the police department, and we're looking for one footprint, or one piece of land, where we can have separate facilities—a warehouse, a mail processing center and the police department's off-site inspection center. We're moving toward it, and the reality is that money that's been appropriated is a good start, but I truly believe we're going to need significantly more money to do this the right way.

Senator CAMPBELL. So this \$7.2 million won't be enough to complete the project? Is that correct?

Mr. PICKLE. No, it will not. It would be substantially more than that.

Senator CAMPBELL. Is it something that could be deferred in view of budgetary constraints or is that considered a really high priority?

Mr. PICKLE. I think it's a high priority for several reasons. We have personnel who are now opening this mail off-site in very primitive conditions. We're making them safe, they are safe.

Senator CAMPBELL. What is a primitive condition?

Mr. PICKLE. When I say primitive, we are remodeling a current warehouse facility; it's a very close-in facility. Now, where it's safe, and we have the negative airflow and we have all the precautions that we're taking to make them safe, it's just not a very efficient operation. There are several different processes, which I won't go into here in this open session, but there's several different processes and it is a very, very labor-intensive process.

Senator CAMPBELL. Well, the ricin scare was after we provided the \$6.3 million. Have you had to do design changes that you hadn't expected?

Mr. PICKLE. Yes, we have because the ricin scare forced us to look at the way we handled mail and it's caused us to do a re-engineering of the actual process. But the fundamental design changes whereby walls are here and interior walls are here, that hasn't changed too significantly.

STAFFING LEVELS

Senator CAMPBELL. I see. Your budget also includes 15 additional staff over the fiscal year 2004 authorized level. This committee understands that there are about 50 vacancies, excluding patronage positions. Why do you have so many unfulfilled positions and why are you requesting additional ones when you haven't filled the other 50?

Mr. PICKLE. Well, that was my question, too. It was my question last year and I think it was your question last year. And I thought I had a good answer last year and I'm going to try to give you a better one this year. What we have found is, we have an attrition rate of maybe 3 or 4 percent a year. We constantly have people who are leaving for one reason or another. We have also been given additional positions by this committee over the last several years which we are trying very aggressively to fill. So I guess what I'm saying is, as we hire one person we may have one vacancy occur. But the other part of that, and this is an important part, we have many applicants for these positions but we still continue to insist on hiring only the best people we can find. And if we don't find the right person then we won't fill that person and we will readvertise it. But I agree it's imperative that we become fully staffed. We are not there yet and I do not think, based on what I found out, that we are any different than any other organization, private or governmental, whereby you ever reach full staffing levels.

Senator CAMPBELL. So with the 50 vacancies, are our service levels degraded any place in particular?

Mr. PICKLE. I think it's across the board but one of the areas that we're increasing dramatically this year, and it's not reflected in our initial budget request, is we've added 12 positions to the post office for mail handlers, and this is for those personnel who will examine mail.

NEW TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Senator CAMPBELL. Your budget includes \$2.8 million for the design of a new Capitol Hill telephone system. Why is that system needed and when would funding be required for the system itself?

Mr. PICKLE. It's my understanding the last major telecommunications upgrade took place in the late 80's. What this \$2.8 million does for us is it gives us about \$800,000 to do the actual consulting work, the research, the developmental work, looking at the architecture we have or will need. The other \$2 million is a number that we believe will be sufficient this year to start buying additional equipment, phone sets. But you are right and I think where you're going, the long-term cost will be much more but we can't—

Senator CAMPBELL. Do you have an estimate about that long-term cost?

Mr. PICKLE. The long-term cost I do not know; we won't know until we complete the consulting work. That's part of this funding.

NEW MAIL HANDLING PROTOCOLS

Senator CAMPBELL. For whatever you can say in a public forum here, what's the status of the new mail handling protocols? What's been put in place following the ricin incident?

Mr. PICKLE. Let me talk in general terms if I may. Mail coming to the Senate continues to be irradiated at a postal facility in the Northeast part of this country. It's then delivered here to Washington where it goes to a mail examining center. The mail is examined in a particular process. It then goes to another center where it's actually opened, physically opened, and each individual letter is opened and examined for any type of substance. It's then quarantined until the tests come back negative. It is then delivered to the Senate post office, where the post office then delivers it to the individual committee or Member's office. This process, unfortunately, adds about 24 hours to the current mail delivery process. We're looking at postmark to delivery about 8 to 10 days. Now, having said that, we still have a backlog because, as you remember, on February 3, when we had the ricin attack, we stopped delivery of mail for approximately 10 days here on the Senate side. We're trying to go through all that mail that is backed up and clean it out of the system and get it delivered. So we still have a backlog of just under 2 weeks of mail that hasn't been caught up with.

Senator CAMPBELL. About 2 weeks?

Mr. PICKLE. About 2 weeks' worth.

EFFECTS OF IRRADIATION

Senator CAMPBELL. One last little question. I don't know if this happened to all the other Senators or just me but this is my Senate card, and it's all faded and flat. The raised numbers, that go through the irradiation machine, they're perfectly flat so the electronic tape, this magnetic tape on the back still works but the front doesn't. I was told that that's what irradiation does to them. Is that just my card or do they all come out like that?

Mr. PICKLE. No, if the irradiation level is high enough it will, the term that's used, "cook" something and that heat could, in fact, flatten those out.

Senator CAMPBELL. Is there anything on the drawing board that won't do that to cards?

Mr. PICKLE. Well, I'm surprised that happened. We promised about 1 year ago that we would reduce those levels considerably so as to prevent that. But we will look into that, certainly.

Senator CAMPBELL. Okay, I have no further questions. Senator Durbin.

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE PROBE

Senator DURBIN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Pickle, again let me thank you and all those who helped you with the investigation

on the computer break-in, computer theft. I know it was an extraordinary commitment on your part and the people who worked with you, with the Capitol Police as well as the Secret Service. I thank you for that.

Mr. PICKLE. Thank you.

Senator DURBIN. I'd like to ask you a few follow-up questions. You're aware of the fact that when the Senate Judiciary Committee finished a number of letters were sent to the Attorney General.

Mr. PICKLE. Yes, sir.

Senator DURBIN. Different letters. Some of us signed both.

Mr. PICKLE. Yes.

Senator DURBIN. I think the message that we were sending to the Attorney General's Office was our hope that this would be investigated in a totally above-board, non-partisan fashion. And your investigation was to determine whether or not there was any criminal wrongdoing and whether this investigation should be pursued. I'd like to ask you a few questions relevant to that. I understand on Wednesday, March 17, you delivered a copy of the report to the Justice Department. First of all, I realize Attorney General Ashcroft has been out as he's recuperating from surgery and we all wish him well in that regard; Deputy Attorney General Jim Comey is in charge of the Department. Did you meet with Mr. Comey with this referral?

Mr. PICKLE. No, we made initial contact with Mr. Comey's office and his designee met with us, a Mr. Chris Ray.

Senator DURBIN. The Assistant Attorney for the Criminal Division?

Mr. PICKLE. Criminal, yes.

Senator DURBIN. Did anyone, Mr. Ray or anyone at the Justice Department, tell you what they intended to do with the report?

Mr. PICKLE. I believe the quote was that we intend to take a very thorough, professional review of this and we will contact the committee.

Senator DURBIN. Did they give you any timeframe within which they would respond to the referral?

Mr. PICKLE. No, not at all.

Senator DURBIN. Did you ask them for a response?

Mr. PICKLE. No, we did not, sir.

Senator DURBIN. Was Mr. William Ascella—I hope I'm pronouncing it correctly—the Department's Assistant Attorney General for Legislative Affairs, at the meeting as well?

Mr. PICKLE. Yes he was.

Senator DURBIN. Did you raise with him the outstanding issue you had with the Department of Justice Legislative Affairs Office which you referred to in your report footnote seven, and I quote, "As to the time of this report is being completed, the Department of Justice still has under consideration investigators' request to interview the employee who Mr. Blank reported having contacts with."

Mr. PICKLE. Yes, we raised that issue.

Senator DURBIN. If so, what did Mr. Ascella—I hope that's correct—reply?

Mr. PICKLE. I along with my counsel, Lynne Halbrooks, who is with me, raised that issue along with several other issues we thought were important but there was no comment to those.

Senator DURBIN. Based on your investigation do you feel that there is any danger if the investigation, complete investigation of this matter is not finished in a timely fashion?

Mr. PICKLE. I'm going to look at it as a criminal investigator would. I have no concerns that any evidence will be destroyed but of course any investigation you get into you want to do it in a very timely manner; memories are fresh, documents cannot be destroyed that may not be in possession, and people can still be located. So I would hope that it would be investigated soon if it's going to be investigated at all.

Senator DURBIN. Thank you very much, I agree with that. And I might also add for the record that some groups continue to buy newspaper advertising that attacks the Senators who had their files broken into instead of going after those who were guilty of the theft.

GAO COMPUTER SECURITY REVIEW

Let me ask you also, during your investigation you came to realize that all of the Senate committees' systems were set up in essentially similar ways, with similar vulnerabilities in some places as those exploited in the Senate Judiciary Committee. On February 20, 2004, Senators Hatch and Leahy sent a joint letter to David Walker, Comptroller General, asking the GAO to perform a comprehensive control study to assess the sufficiency of our committee's computer security and to recommend policies and practices for the committee to adopt. Are you working with the GAO on this matter?

Mr. PICKLE. We have had only a conversation over the phone with them. They're starting to make inquiries now and they're starting to come in and begin their review but I don't know at what stage that is.

Senator DURBIN. Do you plan on working with the GAO in this study?

Mr. PICKLE. We're going to be helpful but I want to direct them to the committee and work with staff directors there. And I have to be cautious about this; I want to make sure that whatever we do does not jeopardize the evidence that we still have in custody, the servers, the hard drives and the other backup tapes that we seized. So it may be the GAO may take a step back and wait for this to be complete before they come in.

Senator DURBIN. So it's possible the GAO analysis and recommendations about how to make all the computers safe on Capitol Hill may be waiting Department of Justice action at your investigation.

Mr. PICKLE. It's possible but I think they would have to look and actually meet with the staff directors and meet with the systems administrators. And once they get a feel of the architecture and what currently exists they can probably then make that decision but I wouldn't want them to be premature and just jump in without having a good view of that land in front of them.

Senator DURBIN. Well, I certainly hope Department of Justice deals with this in a timely fashion to preserve evidence and to make certain that we have a good, complete investigation. You took it as far as you could, I understand that, did a fine job with the Secret Service but only Department of Justice can finish this investigation. Doing it in a timely fashion will finally bring us to a conclusion in that regard one way or the other and also set the stage for looking at other computer facilities on the Hill to make certain that they're not vulnerable to the same type of theft.

SENATE COMPUTING TECHNOLOGY

At one of the earlier hearings I expressed concern about the technology——

Mr. PICKLE. Yes.

Senator DURBIN [continuing]. Available to members of the United States Senate. Since I share a home with two Members of the U.S. House of Representatives I often hear about the new bells and whistles that are being added to their computer system.

Mr. PICKLE. Yes.

Senator DURBIN. And I said outloud, and was quoted in the press, that I wanted to find out why the Senate was always behind the House and the House and Senate were always behind the rest of the world when it came to computer technology.

Mr. PICKLE. Yes.

Senator DURBIN. I've learned, once again, to be careful what you wish for because Mr. Greg Hanson of your office came by and absolutely snowed me in a matter of hours, an hour or so, briefing my staff about everything that he's done in a short period of time and plans to do to make sure that the Senate technology is the very best within the limits of our budget. My office receives about 50,000 e-mails every week, 50,000 a week. And we have to find a way to sort through these e-mails by source and subject and generate some replies that are meaningful to the people who contacted us and decide which ones we're not going to reply to, for instance, those from outside my State. I'm wondering, the House, I understand, has a system that's being designed to generate such an automatic reply and sorting. Do you know if similar plans are in place for the Senate?

Mr. PICKLE. I was unaware of this sorting system or software that they have. I have talked to Mr. Hanson since his meeting with you and we are certainly looking at it. I think it can be supplied on an individual basis but we're looking at that now to see if that's not something we should offer everyone.

Senator DURBIN. One of the nightmares that Senator Campbell and I face is to go back to our home States and have someone say, I sent a letter to your office and I never got a reply. Or, I sent an e-mail and I never heard from you.

Mr. PICKLE. Yes.

Senator DURBIN. It's one of the most depressing things that can happen to an elected official. Now we have a mail system that is being delayed for security reasons, obviously necessary security reasons, and an e-mail system that is being overwhelmed.

Mr. PICKLE. Sure.

Senator DURBIN. And so I live and dread that going back to my State I'm going to run into that kind of a situation. So I certainly encourage you and Mr. Hanson to see if there's a timely way to deal with that issue.

Mr. PICKLE. We will.

SECURITY FOR CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

Senator DURBIN. May I ask you one last question and that is, can you tell me what conversations you've been involved in, if any, relative to security at the new Capitol Visitor Center?

Mr. PICKLE. The conversations relative to security have been few and far between as it relates to the CVC. In other words, we're at a stage now where most of the discussions have to do with operational aspects of the center. Initially we did have a number of conversations; I know the police department participates in these discussions actively with the folks involved in coordinating this effort. Obviously security is paramount there; it's one of the key reasons why we have that center. But I believe from what I heard at a meeting last week that those needs are being addressed and we want to make sure they are addressed.

Senator DURBIN. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Pickle, Mr. Chairman.

Senator CAMPBELL. Senator when you said 50,000 e-mails a week, I haven't been here as long as many of my colleagues but I tell you, when I first got in office just 22 years ago there were no e-mails. There were no cell phones, there were no Blackberries and those days are gone forever. I often think when I see some of my senior colleagues like Senator Stevens who's with us today, the changes he's seen in technology, what there was or wasn't when he got here but I guess I better not go there.

I'll yield to Senator Stevens now for any questions.

Senator STEVENS. Pocahontas had just left if that tells you anything.

Senator CAMPBELL. That's been awhile.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS SECURITY

Senator STEVENS. I really don't have any questions but I came by, Mr. Pickle, because I think Senator Bennett has pursued the concept of a police force for the Library of Congress. I happen to be Chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress. We still have some real misunderstandings about the concept of integrating the police force, Capitol Police Force, with the police, staff of the Library of Congress. And I've got a bunch of questions that I was going to ask but I think what I'm going to do instead is ask if you and Dr. Billington would meet us, members of the subcommittee, whoever wants to come and see if we can't work this out. Security of the Capitol comes first but there is, really, a history of the police force over there that they've had different duties in the past and I think we have to work some sort of a transition to meet their needs at the same time with the new complex that we've got being built in terms of the new facilities, the visitor facilities, and the connections that will lead to the Library there. I do believe we have to integrate the police force of Capitol Hill. I would like to make sure that the transition is done in a way that doesn't

upset the current needs of the Library while at the same time meeting the transitional needs of the Capitol Police. I think that's going to be worked out in a conference with all concerned if you're willing to do that. I know, Mr. Chairman, you've been involved in that and of course it was initially started by Senator Bennett. We watched it but I do get comments from the librarian and from the Library of Congress personnel and it's just better if we work it out on a consensus basis and get some specifics about the transition and how we achieve the goals both of the Capitol Police and the Library. So I hope you'd be willing to do that sometime after Easter, just sit down and work it out.

Mr. PICKLE. Be happy to, sir. Thank you.

Senator STEVENS. Thank you.

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE QUESTIONS

Senator CAMPBELL. Thank you, Bill. There may be additional questions in writing from other members who are not here. Thank you for your appearance.

Mr. PICKLE. Thank you.

[The following questions were not asked at the hearing, but were submitted to the Office for response subsequent to the hearing:]

QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY SENATOR BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL

Question. It is our understanding that the Sergeant at Arms offers cellular phone/BlackBerry combination devices from both Cingular and Verizon; and that only the devices provided by Cingular have the capability to receive the emergency alerts from your office and the Capitol Police. Given that you offer the Verizon BlackBerry and that most Senate cellular accounts are on the Verizon network, what is your plan to enable the Verizon BlackBerries to receive the emergency alerts?

Answer. Although all of the major wireless carriers offer their own version of RIM's BlackBerry, the SAA only fully supports the original BlackBerry 950 and 957 devices which use the Cingular nationwide Mobitex "data only" network. This is because these are the only devices that provide the alert capabilities used by the Capitol Police and the Senate Cloakrooms.

We are aggressively exploring a device- and carrier-agnostic solution that offers maximum flexibility and reduces our dependencies as they relate to device manufacturers and wireless network providers. In parallel, we have provided all carriers offering the converged BlackBerry devices our specific console-to-device and device-to-device broadcast messaging requirements that we rely upon for USCP Emergency Alerts and Cloakroom Vote Alerts. We have asked them to develop similar if not more capable solutions to meet our emergency messaging needs and hope that all carriers will soon be able to meet our requirements.

We are currently testing a beta version of software that runs on Cingular's converged cellular phone/BlackBerry, model 7280, and provides the alert capabilities we currently have on the RIM BlackBerry models 950 and 957. We expect the final version of the software to be released in the April-June 2004 timeframe, at which time it will become the first fully supported converged cellular phone/BlackBerry device that receives our alerts and works with the Senate's e-mail system.

We are also expecting to receive a beta version of the device- and carrier-agnostic solution by the end of May 2004. Since we have not seen the solution yet, we cannot say how long it will take to bring it into production if it meets our needs, but we are hopeful that it can be done by the end of the summer 2004.

We also expect that the technology will continue toward the convergence of multiple functions into a single device. Although this is a benefit to many, you should consider the consequences of having all of your communications capabilities on one device that relies on a single communications path for all of your normal and emergency communications.

Finally, to clarify an assertion in the question, we assist Members and their staff in ordering cellular phones or cellular phone and BlackBerry combination devices from whatever carrier they believe best meets their needs. In addition to Cingular and Verizon, we also order devices and service from AT&T and other cellular carriers.

Question. In the wake of the recent ricin incident, is the Senate considering scanning and digitizing mail like the House of Representatives is doing?

Answer. As you know, the ricin incident caused us to change our mail inspection, sorting, and delivery processes. Now, prior to delivery to Senate offices, we open, inspect and test, at offsite locations, all mail addressed to the Senate. These significant changes have made us less vulnerable to such threats in the future.

In addition to the changes we've already made, we are investigating the possibility of digitizing mail and the ramifications on Senate operations. The House has a pilot program which has met with some limited success, based on low volumes of mail. As part of our always ongoing effort to leverage technology to improve efficiency and effectiveness at the Senate, we have implemented sophisticated document scanning and archiving capability in our Printing Graphics & Direct Mail (PG&DM) organization. We are currently evaluating the House initiative along with looking at ways to utilize the technology we have to address the problem of digitizing and distributing Senate mail.

Factors to be considered:

- The extremely high volume of Senate mail
- The impact irradiation has on document imaging legibility
- The sensitive nature of some of the Senate mail
- The importance, in some cases, of preserving and delivering paper artifacts
- The delay that scanning and digitizing might introduce into our mail processes—it takes about 3.5 minutes per letter and we average 32,000 first class letters every day
- Delivery modes and media
- The potential effect of transmitting digitized mail files across our network infrastructure
- The additional cost in terms of personnel and infrastructure upgrades to accommodate digitizing mail
- Procedures, processes, and locations for storing paper mail artifacts after digitization
- Privacy and security issues.

As we conduct this analysis, we will continue to explore new ways and new technologies to make Senate mail delivery more efficient, effective and secure.

Question. Please give us an idea of the volume of message traffic that passes through our networks and the degree to which our website is visited.

A Typical Monday

Web Services Statistics (Webster, Senate.gov, LIS & Senate Newswire)—

- Total unique visits: 99,420
- Total data sent to the public: 26,074,442,795 bytes

Electronic Mail—

- Inbound: 281,795 messages
- Outbound: 163,609 messages
- TOTAL: 445,404 messages

Daily Viruses Report—

- Mail Gateway viruses found: 39,795
- Server viruses found: 3,664

Question. Please give us an idea of the number of support calls your information systems help desk and your telecommunications services organizations process.

Computer Support:

Computer trouble calls resolved annually—Approx. 18,000

Orders and installations annually—Approx. 4,000

Helpdesk has met or exceeded service level agreement (SLA) every month since May 2003 (95 percent work accomplished on time and 95 percent of customer satisfaction ratings either “very satisfactory” or “excellent”)

Telecommunications Support (fiscal year 2003)

Capitol Exchange calls answered—1,805,818

Telecomm helpdesk (programming) telephones programmed—10,213

Telecomm Coordinators—20,189 task orders accomplished

Info Exchange—2,520,168 pages processed

Question. Why is parking around the Capitol complex at such a premium?

Answer. Nearly 400 parking spaces have been lost since the CVC project began. During that same period of time, Members, Offices, and Committees have issued or requested 445 unreserved parking permits, and the USCP has petitioned for another 400 unreserved permits to accommodate new recruits. Currently, over 2,000 unreserved permits exist for 1,042 unreserved parking spaces.

Historically, Members, Offices, and Committees have been allowed to request unreserved parking permits as needed. Even when the CVC is completed, there will be less space for parking; perhaps now is a good time to limit the number of unreserved parking permits that each Member, Office, and Committee can issue as has been done with the AOC and the USCP.

The USCP has exhausted its allocation and is looking for additional parking. A recent contract with the Fairchild Building will yield at least 100 spaces to the USCP, and parking lots adjacent to the Fairchild Building have been noted by the AOC.

The USCP and the Parking Office are collaborating to step up enforcement. The AOC can help recover approximately 150 slots by seeking work sites off of Senate parking lots. The Parking Office is aggressively seeking ways to squeeze more spaces from existing lots and streets, including "short stacking" lots when demand for parking is high. Increased use of Metro Subsidy will help alleviate parking pressures as well.

There has been discussion of building a garage on the Senate campus. A garage would certainly alleviate many problems and pressures associated with parking.

Question. What is being done to alleviate the lengthy lines to enter Senate buildings?

Answer. Several options are under evaluation by the U.S. Capitol Police. Those options include:

- Designating certain entrances as "Staff Only" entrances between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Directing visitors to locations that do not impede staff entrances.
- Providing additional officers at the Hart Building C Street entrance to assist and conduct hand searches of staff bags.
- Exploring additional X-ray machines at locations that can support them.

We plan to meet with the Committee on Rules and Administration to discuss these options prior to any implementation.

CAPITOL POLICE BOARD

STATEMENT OF W. WILSON LIVINGOOD, CHAIRMAN, CAPITOL POLICE BOARD

ACCOMPANIED BY:

HON. WILLIAM H. PICKLE, SENATE SERGEANT AT ARMS AND BOARD MEMBER

HON. ALAN M. HANTMAN, ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL
TERRANCE W. GAINER, CHIEF, U.S. CAPITOL POLICE

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL

Senator CAMPBELL. We now move to panel two, the House Sergeant at Arms, Bill Livingood, accompanied by board members Bill Pickle and Architect of the Capitol Alan Hantman. And Chief of Police Terrance Gainer. And as with the first panel if you'd like to abbreviate your comments that will be fine since we've already read your written statement. And I understand Mr. Alan Hantman is also here, a member of the Police Force, too. Go ahead and start, Mr. Livingood.

LOC POLICE MERGER MEETING

Senator STEVENS. Mr. Chairman, could I just interrupt and ask if I may ask questions of these gentlemen? You heard my question to Mr. Pickle, are you willing to have such a meeting, Chief Gainer?

Chief GAINER. Yes, Senator.

Senator STEVENS. Does that meet with your approval, Mr. Livingood?

Mr. LIVINGOOD. Yes sir.

Senator STEVENS. Thank you very much.

STATEMENT OF WILSON LIVINGOOD

Mr. LIVINGOOD. Mr. Chairman and Senator Durbin, I'm honored to appear before you today to discuss the United States Capitol Police fiscal year 2005 budget request. The Capitol Board members, Mr. Pickle and Mr. Hantman, are here with me and Chief Gainer is accompanying us today.

With your permission I am just going to provide you with a short summary of my budget request remarks and provide the balance in my testimony for the record.

Senator CAMPBELL. That's fine.

Mr. LIVINGOOD. World events and the continuing threat to our security here at home have driven an increased Capitol complex security. It is a very difficult job to maintain a legislative complex open to the public while at the same time ensuring the safety of the Congress, staff and visitors against increased dangers. The news media provides daily testimony of the terrors and political agendas of extremist groups. In today's environment the Capitol

Police walk a very fine line and have a challenging mission—maintaining the tradition of open Government that we revere and demand while providing the maximum degree of safety and security. To accomplish this mission the Chief and the Department have developed an excellent strategic plan, one designed to meet not only the current needs but the future needs of the Congress.

The budget before you today is a funding requirement based on this strategic plan. We ask your support and approval in carrying out this strategic plan which strengthens our vigilance, resilience by augmenting abilities in assessing threats, preventing unlawful acts, responding to incidents and supporting the general operations of the Capitol Police.

PREPARED STATEMENT

In closing, I would like to thank the Committee for the ongoing support of the men and women of the Capitol Police and their continued and diligent efforts to develop a better security plan and operations, response forces and law enforcement capabilities. I'd also like to extend a personal word of thanks to the men and women of the Capitol Police and the entire Board joins me in this, in that every day they provide the highest possible degree of professionalism, commitment and service to the United States Congress. And I am proud to represent them today as is the rest of the Board before you. Thank you.

[The statement follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF WILSON LIVINGOOD

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee, I am honored to appear before you today to discuss the United States Capitol Police fiscal year 2005 budget request. Capitol Police Board members, William Pickle, Senate Sergeant at Arms, Alan Hantman, Architect of the Capitol, and Terrance Gainer, Chief of Police accompany me today.

Mr. Chairman, I would first like to thank the Committee for their ongoing support of the men and women of the Capitol Police and their continued and diligent efforts to develop better security operations, response forces, and law enforcement capabilities.

World events and security threats here at home have driven increased Capitol complex security. It is a difficult job to maintain a legislative complex open to the public, while at the same time ensuring the safety of the Congress, staff, and visitors against increased dangers. The news media provides daily testimony of the terrors and political agendas of extremist groups. In today's environment, the Capitol Police walk a fine line—maintaining the tradition of open government that we revere and demand, while providing the maximum degree of safety and security. At times in the past year, the national threat level has been elevated in response to the potential for domestic terrorist activity. We have mirrored this response with our own Capitol-specific threat levels. Indeed, the Capitol—much like the White House—is both a working building and a monument, and therefore currently remains at an elevated threat level. It is clear from our history that the Capitol is a tempting target for terrorists and those who seek to disrupt the legislative process or strike a symbolic blow against the United States. We also know that terrorists choose targets based on certain criteria, such as symbolism, mass casualties, and high likelihood of success. It is our responsibility to take every prudent precaution that we can to remove the terrorists' likelihood of success with regard to the Capitol, the Senate and House office buildings, and for those who work and visit within the Capitol complex.

The Chief and his staff have been very diligent this past year in appraising the effectiveness of police operations. They have developed an excellent strategic plan that is designed to meet the current and future needs of Congress. The budget before you today is the funding requirement based on this Strategic Plan. We ask your support and approval in carrying out this plan, which strengthens our vigilance and resilience by augmenting abilities in assessing threats, providing effective security,

preventing unlawful acts, responding to incidents, and supporting the general operations of the Capitol Police. We cannot undo an incident like a suicide or truck bombing as seen abroad, and should act responsibly to prevent these incidents. Related to the issue of sufficient force strength and sufficient police facilities, recent Capitol Police growth and requested staffing levels have and will strain facility requirements; we ask for your continued support in solving these issues.

In prior appropriations, this Committee funded, and the Capitol Police are putting into action, a Hazardous Materials Response Team. Most recently, this forethought and action paid off. I would like to publicly commend the Chief and his dedicated staff for a stellar job in handling the ricin incident. The Capitol Police trained, prepared, and were ready for this type of incident. Being prepared requires gathering intelligence, training, and adapting operations commensurate with needs. For example, the discovery of ricin in Senate mail has prompted a complete review of all mail protocols for both the Senate and the House. We are constantly reviewing and enhancing existing emergency plans, protocols and procedures. Regarding preparations, there is a renewed focus on training. In the past year, Congressional staffs have been introduced to the protocols relating to evacuation and shelter in place procedures, as well continued practice with the escape hoods.

The Capitol Police are to be applauded for their efforts since we last met. Preparing for incidents and preempting threats has been a crucial focus under the Chief's leadership, and so the Department is constantly assessing its abilities and strengthening its skills. Recent Capitol Police accomplishments include: an in depth analysis of staffing, the development of a new strategic plan, core infrastructure systems replacement, an increase in employee training, better morale, and continued implementation of hazardous materials response capabilities. The Department's infrastructure is being shored up with an inside-out approach that is challenging the whole of the organization to perform at a higher level.

This transformation effort, which includes additional operational and administrative staffing resources and new security and information systems, is a thoughtful multi-year undertaking extending into the 2005 fiscal year and relies on the budget request before you today. This budget ties the planning and transformational efforts of the Department to the requested means necessary to support this effort. Every line item in this budget is purpose-built to support one of the four major goals of the Department and the supporting strategic objectives. This is a tightly engineered budget, formulated with the best efforts of many highly trained men and women dedicated to the mission of the Department to protect Congress, its Members, staff, visitors and, in whole, the Legislative process from harm or interruption.

Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the Capitol Police Board, I would like to thank you for this opportunity to appear before you today, and for your consideration of this budget request. Every day, the men and women of the U.S. Capitol Police face a huge challenge: to provide the maximum degree of safety and security while allowing the Capitol, Senate and House Office Buildings to remain open and accessible to the general public. And every day they succeed. I am honored to be associated with the men and women of the U.S. Capitol Police.

Chief Gainer will address more specific operations and plans for the coming fiscal year.

Senator CAMPBELL. Thank you, Mr. Livingood. Chief Gainer.

STATEMENT OF CHIEF TERRANCE W. GAINER

Chief GAINER. Thank you Senator, and I too will submit my testimony for the record and summarize it.

I'd like to put a little context to our budget request and reiterate what the chairman just mentioned, that the fight against terrorism led by the United States and its coalition partners continues. We know through speeches, tapes and other terrorist propaganda the leadership of Al Queda has stated their intent to strike another blow on America. This rhetoric and their actions has given some insight into potential targets. The United States Capitol and all it stands for is clearly one of those targets.

It is human nature to be optimistic but recent events have reinforced what intelligence has discovered over the years, that terrorist organizations have the means and methods to strike whenever and wherever. Intelligence and security experts both inside

and outside government have stated that the United States Capitol remains a primary target. It is not really a question of if but a question of when we could expect a strike. What is known is that vehicle bombs, suicide bombers and improvised explosive devices are the weapons of choice and easy to execute.

We have not limited our preventive measures to these traditional threats. As you know, 9/11 introduced a new method and means of carrying out an attack, since then we have increased our intelligence capability and the Department has personnel detailed to other Federal agencies to further facilitate that capability. We have people at Homeland Security, FBI, State Department, CIA, as well as some local departments. We have undertaken a number of projects to continue emergency outreach and notification. While many of you know of the emergency annunciators you may not know that we have over 3,600 of these units deployed through the entire Capitol system. In addition, we have developed a project to deploy a complex-wide public address system. This project will provide the critical means to send out emergency notifications to all public spaces, evacuation and assembly areas, parking garages and other areas. We expect this project to be completed in December of this year; we're on target to reach that objective.

We are, however, vulnerable around this Capitol. As the committee is aware, there have been a number of studies done over the years; they have all commented on our openness to the largest vulnerability, in particular there have been five studies by various security experts that have recommended the installation of a fence around the Capitol square. Even a recent staffing analysis conducted by the General Accounting Office in February 2004, included the installation of a fence, as a recommended option. This latest recommendation goes a step further and recommends a fence around all the office buildings, and I quote from that report. "An aesthetically pleasing perimeter security fence could be constructed around the Capitol Building grounds. This would markedly increase security within and around the Capitol Building, Members, staff and visitors." The recommendation of a fence has been discussed for many years and was originally proposed in a 1985 document called the "Whip's Plan". While the decision on the fence will not be decided here, the impact from the lack of it is felt every day and is shown in the numbers of required personnel in our budget. We are constantly required to increase the use of manpower and technology to keep this legislative branch safe and secure while ensuring continuous operations during these evolving threats, as well as maintaining an open and free Capitol.

It is the men and women of this Department who selflessly provide the first line of defense to protect this institution. Most Federal agencies have layers of defense to prevent attacks. The success of a terrorist attack on one of our buildings, once initiated, will be deterred by that officer standing at the entrance of the building. While the use of technology aids in detection and deterrence, it was a police officer that prevented Russell Weston from continuing through the Capitol. And it was police officers who first responded to both the anthrax and ricin.

Accordingly, our budget request of \$291.6 million represents a reasonable, necessary and balanced plan to directly assess the

threats of today and proposes the use of resources to ensure the protection of the Congress, its Members, staff and visitors in the process. The implementation of our strategic plan, which this budget supports, is a prudent plan to help ensure the safety of our Capitol. The budget request represents a 33 percent increase over the fiscal year 2004 net appropriation. It's a lot. However, when the \$12.7 million from the fiscal year 2003 supplemental, which as directed by the committees was used to support fiscal year 2004 operational needs is taken into consideration, the requested increase is \$59.1 million or 25 percent and is still significant.

This increase provides \$12.7 million for 6 months' funding for 213 sworn and 155 civilian additional positions. In the personnel area \$5.5 million is requested for a sworn pay scale adjustment; \$3.3 million for a 6-month annualization of the 75 civilian positions provided in fiscal year 2004 and \$12.2 million for the cost of living adjustments, rate increases and health benefits.

Other significant increases include \$3.1 million for the Inauguration; \$8.1 million for the replacement of escape hoods; \$3 million for a new accounting system; \$2.7 million for security at the new legislative branch alternate computer facility and \$1.8 million for wireless data interoperability infrastructure. But I need to point out this is not just a wish list of our managers. We have a zero-base budget process. Originally, the general expense requests totaled over \$100 million, which were reduced by some 40 percent to the \$59.9 million included in this budget.

As with any organization we realize there is always room for improvement. We will continue to strive to strengthen and augment our prevention and response capabilities, to review the current environment, to improve the coordination with our congressional community, to emphasize training of all our employees and to have substantially filled all authorized civilian positions by the end of this fiscal year, and to make progress with our business systems' modernizations.

And finally, although facilities are the responsibilities of the Architect of the Capitol they certainly are critical to our operations. In February 2004 the Architect of the Capitol leased approximately 100,000 square feet of space at 499 South Capitol Street SE, the Fairchild Building, as an interim space solution. This facility will go a long way to alleviate our space constraints at our headquarters building when we move in there.

As the Chief of the Capitol Police I take great pride in the many years of service that this Department has provided to the Congress. Building on that legacy, we at the Capitol Police look forward to continuing to safeguard the Congress, its staff and visitors. And we look forward to working with the Congress and this committee to see what we can do with our budget.

PREPARED STATEMENT

And finally, Senator, I might say on behalf of the men and women, as we wind toward the conclusion of your particular career, thank you for your support of the men and women of the Capitol Police. Your kindness to our officers and the people who support them is well recognized. Your help in getting our Harleys is lauded by all those riders and now the horses that recently visited our

Capitol and will be out galloping come this May, we definitely owe a debt of gratitude to you. Thank you.

[The statement follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF TERRANCE W. GAINER

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee, I am honored to appear before you today to discuss the United States Capitol Police fiscal year 2005 budget request.

I would like to thank the Committee for their continued support of the Capitol Police and our efforts to provide world-class security and law enforcement services to the Congress. As the foremost symbol of American representative democracy, the Congress, its Members, employees, visitors, as well as public buildings and operations are a highly visible target for individuals and organizations intent on causing harm to the United States and disrupting the legislative operations of our government. We are the first line of defense and we take our job very seriously.

Expansion, as well as consistently fine tuning how we currently operate, is imperative to ensuring that we continue to provide the safest and most secure environment to enable Congress to fulfill its Constitutional responsibilities, and to protect those who work and visit the Capitol complex. We face a daunting task, and a high workload.

During fiscal year 2003, the Uniformed Services Bureau greeted and screened over 7.4 million staff and visitors, the K-9 unit conducted more than 40,000 explosive detection sweeps, the offsite delivery center conducted 19,081 vehicle and cargo inspections, the Construction Security Division conducted 85,870 vehicle inspections in calendar year 2003, we made 553 misdemeanor and felony arrests and 982 traffic arrests, 87 weapons and contraband items were confiscated, and the Hazardous Devices section conducted over 2,000 bomb searches and responded to over 430 suspicious package calls. Our specialized units also responded to the recent Ricin incident. The Department used our Hazardous Incident Response Division teams and our recently specially trained officers for the initial response. This incident quickly grew to include numerous federal and military agencies involved in the resolution. The Department's incident management team seamlessly joined our federal partners to successfully manage this biological threat. Our capabilities in this area have greatly improved since the 2001 Anthrax attack.

The fight against terrorism led by the United States and its coalition partners continues. Recent events in Europe, Russia, Afghanistan, Iraq, Israel and specifically the Madrid bombings illustrate that the global war on terrorism has not diminished. As the leader of this endeavor, the United States is the number one target of al-Qa'ida, its surrogates, and other Islamic radicals. In speeches, tapes and other terrorist propaganda, the leadership of al-Qa'ida has stated their intent to strike another blow on our homeland. This rhetoric and their actions, have given some insight into potential targets. The United States Capitol and all it stands for, is clearly one of those targets.

It is human nature to be optimistic, but recent events have reinforced what intelligence information has told us for years, that terrorist organizations have the means and the methods to strike whenever and wherever. Intelligence and Security experts both inside and outside government have stated the U.S. Capitol remains a primary target. It is really not a question of if, but when the United States Capitol Police will again be called to respond to another terrorist attack. What is known is that vehicle bombs, homicide bombers, and improvised explosive devices are the weapons of choice and easy to execute. The Department continues to take unprecedented steps to counter these threats and is considered a leader in many areas among federal and private institutions.

For example, we recently developed and distributed a comprehensive procedure for officers responding to a homicide bomber. One of the first in the nation to address this threat, we have developed with support from this Committee, a design for a comprehensive Truck Interdiction Program. This project will use the latest, leading edge technology to detect and interdict a threat before it reaches our doorstep. We have deployed the latest in explosive detection equipment at all our buildings and have increased the number of our K-9 explosive teams.

But we have not limited our preventive measures to just traditional threats. As you well know, 9/11 introduced a new method and means of carrying out an attack. We have increased our Intelligence capability and the Department has personnel detailed to other federal agencies to further enhance that capability. The Capitol Police has personnel working as liaisons at major operations centers and have partnerships with the Department of Homeland Security, FBI, and others. Because of all

these enhancements, the Capitol Police is able to respond to potential threats in a real-time manner.

But we have not solely focused our notification efforts internally. We have taken a number of steps to provide information to the Congressional Community. The recent Ricin incident illustrated the benefit of having a fully functioning Capitol Police Command Center. The newly upgraded Center provided operational workspace for the Capitol Police Incident Command, as well as response elements from the Executive Branch, the Senate, the House, the Architect of the Capitol, the Sergeant at Arms Offices, the Office of the Attending Physician and many others. Those that remember our capabilities after 9/11 and the Anthrax attack saw a drastic change in our capabilities, which were fully used during this incident.

We have undertaken a number of projects to continue emergency outreach and notification. While many of you now know of the emergency annunciators, you may not know that there are over 3,600 of these units deployed and the entire system is maintained and operated by the United States Capitol Police. In addition, we developed a project to deploy a complex wide Public Address System. This project will provide the critical means to send out emergency notifications to all public spaces, evacuation assembly areas, parking garages and other areas. We expect that this project will be completed by December 2004. We are on target to meet this objective.

As the Committee is aware, there have been a number of studies done over the years. They all have all commented that our openness is the largest vulnerability. In particular, there have been five studies by various security experts that have recommended the installation of a fence around Capitol Square. Even a recent staffing analysis, conducted by the General Accounting Office in February 2004 included the recommendation of the installation of a fence. This latest recommendation goes a step further and recommends a fence around the office buildings as well. And I quote "An aesthetically pleasing perimeter security fence could be constructed around the Capitol Building grounds. This would markedly increase security within and around the Capitol Building Members, staff, and visitors."

The recommendation of the fence has been discussed for many years and was originally proposed in a 1985 document called the Whip's Plan. While the decision of the fence will not be decided here, the impact from the lack of it is felt everyday and is shown in the numbers of required personnel and our budget. We are constantly required to increase the use of manpower and technology to keep the Legislative Branch, safe, secure, and while ensuring continuous operations during these evolving threats, as well as maintaining an open and free Capitol.

It is the men and women of this Police Department who selflessly provide the first line of defense to protect this institution. Most federal agencies have layers of defense to prevent attacks. The success of a terrorist attack at one of our buildings, once initiated, will be determined by that officer standing at the entrance of the building. While the use of technology aids in detection and deterrence, it was a police officer that prevented Russell Weston from continuing through the Capitol; and it was police officers that first responded to both the Anthrax and Ricin attacks.

With any organization, we can and need to make improvements, and we actively engage in self-assessments and critical reviews at the conclusion of each project and incident to determine what went right and what can be improved and to incorporate those lessons learned into the fabric of our operations. This mechanism allows us to gauge our success in a positive manner. For example, we are implementing a process of self-testing where random, unannounced contraband will be introduced to test our detection and response capabilities. This self-assessment program, and the proper use of results, will strengthen our portals and provide a safer environment for all who work and visit the Capitol complex.

We work very closely with the Sergeants at Arms and with leadership of both the House and the Senate to ensure that the security of the Congress is appropriately managed. The ability of the U.S. Congress to meet its constitutional responsibilities is intertwined with the ability of the Capitol Police to meet its mission. The Capitol Police is ready and willing to meet the challenge this changing environment poses to the structure of our operations, and we recognize continuous improvement and flexibility are key to maintaining our professional edge. The USCP is a stronger and better-organized agency than it was the last time we met. We have completed a new five-year strategic plan, a performance plan, an annual report and have completed an in-house staffing analysis to provide a road map for improvements and practical strategies for achievement of our mission and goals. The staffing analysis provides a basis for discussion of our manpower needs and continues to be reviewed by the General Accounting Office (GAO). Accordingly, we used the staffing analysis as the basis of our fiscal year 2005 personnel request. However, the GAO review and our ability to stand up to their scrutiny will provide this Committee, and our other over-

sight committees, with information with which to make decisions. I welcome the review and input we are receiving related to this effort.

We welcome the input of our stakeholders and appreciate the input of the GAO. We worked closely with the GAO in developing our new strategic plan. The mission, vision, values, and goals established in the strategic plan serves as a management tool to guide the USCP as we carry out our mission each day and continue preparing for the future. We have linked both our staffing request and all of our general expense items to the strategic plan. In addition, performance appraisals for 30 of our top managers are directly tied to the strategic plan that has become a working document in the Department as Lieutenants and above and civilian equivalents recently underwent training to ensure an understanding of the function and effect of the strategic plan.

Our budget request of \$291.6 million represents a reasonable, necessary and balanced plan to directly address the threats of today and proposes the use of resources to ensure the protection of Congress, its Members, staff, visitors, and the legislative process into the future. The implementation of the USCP strategic plan, which this budget supports, is a prudent plan to help ensure the safety of the Capitol community and the uninterrupted continuation of Congressional operations.

The budget request of \$291.6 million represents a 33 percent increase over the fiscal year 2004 net appropriation. However, when the \$12.7 million from the fiscal year 2003 supplemental, which as directed by the Committees was used to support fiscal year 2004 operational needs, is taken into consideration the requested increase is \$59.1 million or 25 percent. This increase provides \$12.7 million for six months' funding for 213 sworn and 155 civilian additional positions. In the personnel area, \$5.5 million is requested for a sworn pay scale adjustment, \$3.3 million for the six-month annualization of the 75 civilian positions provided in fiscal year 2004, and \$12.2 million for the COLA adjustments, and within grade, and health benefit increases. Other significant increases include \$3.1 million for the Inauguration, \$8.1 million for the replacement of escape hoods, \$3 million for a new accounting system, \$2.7 million for security at the new Legislative Branch alternate computer facility, and \$1.8 for wireless data interoperability infrastructure.

Mr. Chairman, I want you to know that we are aware of the funding constraints that this Committee may face. In that light, we have developed a detailed prioritization of the entire budget request. We will, of course, work with the Committee to meet any funding challenges the Committee faces and to assure that the most critical resources we require are provided to ensure the protection of the Congress and the legislative processes. I should point out that our budget request is not a "wish list" of our managers. We internally reviewed general expense requests that totaled over \$100.4 million and reduced that amount by \$40.5 million to the \$59.9 million included in the fiscal year 2005 budget request.

As with any organization, we realize there is always room for improvement. We will continue to strive to strengthen and augment both our prevention and response capabilities. We continue to review the current environment, our policies and practices, and the resources and tools available to the USCP to ensure that the level of Congressional protection is the best it can be. We continue to improve the coordination within our Congressional community and with other law enforcement entities. We are continuing to emphasize training of all of our employees. In fiscal year 2003, USCP employees participated in over 136,000 hours of training.

Training continues to be integral to the U.S. Capitol Police. This past January marked the beginning of our new Diversity Training Program. All Department employees will receive 8 hours of training designed by specialists in Diversity issues. The feedback on this training has been overwhelmingly positive.

On that note, I would like to report on the Department's effort to recruit under-represented groups. In fiscal year 2004, the Office of Human Resources initiated a targeted recruiting campaign that focuses on recruiting activities in under-represented groups, while maintaining our posture in the female and African-American arenas. These activities include job fairs, educational institutions, professional organizations, and publications that will result in an increase in our targeted candidate pools. OHR has received input from several congressional offices/groups in this endeavor.

I would like to point out that per Department of Justice statistics, in June 2002, the USCP had the second highest percentage of black police officers of all federal law enforcement. We recently promoted approximately 40 supervisors to the rank of sergeant and lieutenant. This group of supervisors reflects a very diverse group of individuals who will lead the Department into the future.

We continue to make progress on our administrative and support side. We got off to a slow start on hiring the additional civilian staff that has been recently provided. To get this back on track, a new Human Resources director was hired in Au-

gust 2003. Since that time, we have made a concerted effort to assess existing staff competencies and reposition them accordingly as well as hire experienced and seasoned individuals into key leadership positions. We have also procured significant contract support to “jump-start” work in functional areas identified by GAO as requiring improvement such as policy development, workforce planning, performance management, and time and attendance systems. In order to ensure that we keep our improvement efforts on track, we have linked key HR activities to the agency’s strategic plan and developed corresponding performance measures.

We are committed to having substantially filled all authorized civilian positions by September 30, 2004. We are developing an internal Investment Review Board (IRB) process to review and prioritize major resource requirements. In our Information Technology area, we continue to make progress with our business systems modernization. We are in the process of hiring an Information Security Officer and have contracted for an IT Security Assessment to ensure the appropriate security of our systems.

Although facilities are the responsibility of the Architect of the Capitol (AOC), they are critical to our operations. In February 2004, the AOC leased approximately 100,000 square feet of space at 499 South Capitol Street S.E. as an interim space solution. This facility will go a long way to alleviate space constraints at our Headquarters building. Most of our administrative functions and the Capitol and House Divisions will be housed in the new facility. I would like to thank the Architect for his continued support, and go on record that I fully support the funding he has included in his budget for the acquisition of a new off-site delivery facility and for the maintenance of our existing facilities. Again, we will work with the Committee and the AOC on what our most urgent priorities are, and what can realistically be funded within the limited resources available to the Committee.

Whether it is effective communications, effective incident response, effective staffing strengths, or simply effective operations, we value being the best. The men and women of the Capitol Police are talented, motivated, and engaged professionals who take great heart in protecting this Congress.

As Chief of the Capitol Police I take great pride in the many years of service this Department has provided to the Congress. Building on that legacy, we at the USCP look forward to continuing to safeguard the Congress, staff, and visitors to the Capitol complex during these challenging times. And we look forward to working with the Congress and particularly this Committee.

I thank you for your time and am ready to address any questions you may have.

SECURITY FENCE

Senator CAMPBELL. Thank you, Chief. I’m just leaving here, I’m not finishing a career. I’m going to climb a few mountains somewhere else. I’ve enjoyed working you, the Capitol Police and Bill with your Department, too. I look forward to coming back someday though and hope there’s somebody that’s going to really take a particular personal interest in the Capitol Police as it has been mine. Maybe you have to have been a policeman or a sheriff’s deputy to have that kind of an interest. I don’t know, but it was right when I first got here I wanted to make that one of my priorities and finally I was in a position where I could help a little bit.

Let me ask you a few questions, here. First of all, you mentioned this fence. I tell you, I think most Americans would just rebel at the thought of their Capitol being fenced. There’s got to be, in this high-tech way we operate now, methods of doing things without a big ugly fence around this place. I know that in some cases there are types of bushes and plants and things that can be planted that are just almost impregnable. I mean, you almost can’t get through them. My wife has rose bushes around our house and if we don’t trim them back every year you can’t even get through the front door of our house, for obvious reasons; you just cut yourself to ribbons with those thorns. So I hope whoever’s making the decisions on that thinks of some more aesthetically pleasing way of surrounding this place rather than a wall or a fence. I think that real-

ly flies in the face of what Americans want in their Capitol. You know the openness that we've always expected of our Capitol sends such a wonderful message to the world, we have to find that balance, between security and not looking like we're in a siege or something. And I know that there are brighter minds than mine working on that or will be working on that but I hope they think about that.

BUDGET FREEZE

We've been asking all the agencies and you heard me ask the one that was on the table before you about what happens if we cannot provide a lot of the money that they're asking for and your significant increase includes 358 additional staff. If we cannot reach that and we have to freeze your budget at last year's level, do you have your budget prioritized to the absolute must-haves and the things that could slide for a year and things of that nature?

Chief GAINER. Senator, we sure do but to freeze at the number last year would dramatically require the reduction in force of sworn personnel.

OVERTIME HOURS

Senator CAMPBELL. What are the shifts that the officers are working now? During the big anthrax scare and some other times they were working literally every day and 12-hour days and longer. What's the normal shifts they're putting in now?

Chief GAINER. As a rule they're on an 8-hour schedule. But I also should say a large portion of the Department probably works another 8-hour day, one of their days off. So almost everyone is working some amount of overtime and fortunately they volunteer for it, as a rule.

Senator CAMPBELL. You manage to staff enough just with volunteers, too? Have you had to force any officers to work the days off?

Chief GAINER. On occasion, Senator, there are probably some unhappy families.

STAFFING JUSTIFICATION

Senator CAMPBELL. You're requesting a total of 2,361 staff for fiscal year 2005, consistent with your staffing analysis put together last year. At the request of Congress the General Accounting Office has contracted for an analysis of the Capitol Police staffing plans. That contractor in its February report indicated that there was insufficient justification, such as a shortage of workload data, for roughly 300 new positions, of which 186 would be in the Uniformed Service Bureau. What is your reaction to that analysis?

Chief GAINER. Well, we worked very closely with the GAO and their contractor, SAIC, who did that report for them. And I think overall it's a mixed reaction. They used a red, yellow, green light system. There were quite a few of the positions where they felt that we provided sufficient justification and information for them to make a decision, and then there were relatively few red lights, to use their parlance, where they felt there was not the justification or sufficient support. In the area of their yellow lights there were quite a few; we supplied them additional information, we're re-

sponding to their report in writing and we're working with the Board to further clarify what justification is needed.

HIRING OF FISCAL YEAR 2004 NEW CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES

Senator CAMPBELL. We provided 75 additional civilian employees last year. What's the status of those employees that we did provide for? They've all been hired?

Chief GAINER. They have not all been hired. But what we did do, about 6 months ago, was promote a new Director of Human Resources and she has retooled Human Resources substantially. Human Resources, along with our finance folks, have identified the bottlenecks to that hiring process and we believe we are on track to have all the hirings done for 2004 and also from carryover from 2003 by the end of the fiscal year.

FAIRCHILD BUILDING LEASE

Senator CAMPBELL. A lease was recently signed by the Architect of the Capitol for several floors of the Fairchild Building for the Capitol Police. Does that accommodate your space needs?

Chief GAINER. Not totally. Right now we occupy probably just under 200,000 square feet and that is largely insufficient. The master plan called for some 500,000 square feet. What the Fairchild Building provides us is about 101,000 square feet and it will go a long way to easing the pressure in our headquarters building, the Senate and House office buildings as well as the Capitol. It may very well free up some space in the Capitol Visitor Center. But I think the bottom line, Senator, I should point out, we see that Fairchild 100,000 square feet as very, very temporary and not a long-term solution to the needs of the Department.

FIRING RANGE

Senator CAMPBELL. I see. And you requested funding through the Architect for a firing range. You do the training now over there way down in the bowels of the Rayburn Building somewhere.

Chief GAINER. We do.

Senator CAMPBELL. I understand. Well, if we are unable to provide those funds is that where they'll continue training, where they are now?

Chief GAINER. Well, that will be part of it but that again is not enough. The Congress was very good, especially then to the Department of the Treasury and now Homeland Security, in securing a large facility at Cheltenham, Maryland, where a large firing facility was designed and built. Unfortunately, when that was designed and conceived only some 20 agencies were going to use it; with the recomposition of Homeland Security 70 plus agencies are now going to use it. So we're all kind of scrambling to see what piece of that we can get. We have met with the Board and Senate staff, Homeland Security personnel to see if we can work out a solution where we would have some rights of priority at that facility. If that works out then the absolute need for a range on-base would not be necessary.

LOC POLICE MERGER

Senator CAMPBELL. I see. I believe, like Senator Stevens, that we're at an impasse between the Library of Congress objectives and the Capitol Police too, and I'm sorry you haven't been able to get that all together and in sync. But I just wanted to identify myself, associate myself with his comments that I look forward to trying to work this difference of opinion out about how we merge one department with the other one. So I just wanted to tell you that.

Chief GAINER. Thank you.

MOUNTED HORSE UNIT

Senator CAMPBELL. You mentioned the mounted unit. Are they are on the grounds now?

Chief GAINER. Actually, they paid a visit to us just last week and I have to tell you they were mobbed by people wanting to get pictures with them. They're still in their training.

Senator CAMPBELL. I'd like to say "I told you so."

Chief GAINER. Yes sir. They graduate April 16 and we hope maybe that your schedule will permit you to be part of that. We have eight officers and two sergeants in that school; we've lost a couple through riding mishaps and they decided not to continue riding. We have the equipment, we're in the midst of buying the horses.

Senator CAMPBELL. Did somebody tell them they're supposed to get back on when they fall off?

Chief GAINER. Actually, they did right away but the next day they decided not to get back on.

Senator CAMPBELL. Oh, they shouldn't have been there in the first place if they decided not to get back on. And they're stabled with the Park Service horses down on the Mall?

Chief GAINER. That's what we're working on.

Senator CAMPBELL. That's not where they are now, however?

Chief GAINER. Right now, Senator, they're still at the Rock Creek training stable.

Senator CAMPBELL. I see.

Chief GAINER. We're working out the agreement to determine at which stable they will be.

Senator CAMPBELL. So they're just training them and they brought them down?

Chief GAINER. Right. We do have three vehicles and three trailers. But one of the concerns is with the World War II monument opening up and whether the Park Police will retain that stable on the Mall is being discussed.

Senator CAMPBELL. Is the Park Service Mounted Unit doing some of the training of these officers?

Chief GAINER. They're conducting the training, it's all under their direction and their authority, their expertise.

TRAINING HOURS

Senator CAMPBELL. This is a broader training question—your in-service training is about 80 hours a year, is that correct?

Chief GAINER. It is. And in fact, we really probably exceed that now with all the specialized training. Last year we collectively trained for about 200,000 hours.

Senator CAMPBELL. How much training do those mounted patrolmen go through?

Chief GAINER. That's a 10-week program.

Senator CAMPBELL. Ten weeks. Okay, thanks. Senator Durbin.

ESCAPE HOOD REPLACEMENT

Senator DURBIN. Chief Gainer, can you or somebody on the Board explain escape hood replacement costs of \$8 million.

Chief GAINER. Yes. When the hoods were purchased they appeared to have a 4-year shelf life. We're hoping that's still the case. But what we've seen with the escape hoods is that they're very difficult to put on; and it is impossible to communicate with them on. So, we and others, have been working with the authorities to see if there's a better hood to be made available. The hope is that there would be; the National Certification Group is looking at different hoods. We hope that if a new hood becomes available it will be easier for adults and children to wear. If that's the case, we've made the preliminary decision rather than replace the current hoods, which have a 4-year life, or 3 years left now, rather than doing that piecemeal and give someone an older, less viable escape hood we would convert all to new escape hoods. If there's not a new one discovered then we probably only need to replace a quarter of those and we would not need the full \$8.1 million.

Senator DURBIN. What was the original cost of the escape hoods?

Chief GAINER. The total cost? Excuse me. We purchased 45,000.

Chief GAINER. We purchased 45,000 for about \$4.7 million. But the price of them has gone up.

Senator DURBIN. Obviously.

Chief GAINER. Yes sir. We're anticipating getting higher quality hoods.

Senator DURBIN. What's to tell us that 1 year after we purchase these we've decided we shouldn't have purchased them and \$4.7 million may have been wasted? What have we learned?

Chief GAINER. Well, that was the best product at the time. And it was essential, I think, given the facts that everybody was dealing with that we purchase something. Actually, even if there was a better hood, in theory you could use these for the next 4 years if one trains on them. Most of the staffs of both the House and the Senate, have been excellent on training with the existing hoods. Some others have been a little bit more reticent to come to the training.

Senator DURBIN. I resemble that remark.

Chief GAINER. But it is difficult to put on and impossible to communicate with it on.

Senator DURBIN. That may be a blessing with some elected officials. Let me—well, it's a concern. I don't know how I explain this at home, that we bought 45,000 for \$4 million plus and 1 year later, even though they have 3 years of life left in them we've decided to junk them and to spend two times as much to replace them. If technology is moving that fast to justify it I suppose that's the argument but it appears that a decision was made and it's being countermanded within 1 year and I'll bet you that when the

first \$4 million was justified it was for a 4-year hood. So that's what we're going to be faced with so it seems like a pretty dramatic reversal in a short period.

Chief GAINER. But it's really still under analysis, Senator, so there's no final decision at all.

FENCE

Senator DURBIN. Let me say a word about this fence. I agree with Senator Campbell completely. I've been around here long enough and I think he has too to have seen some dramatic and depressing changes in terms of life on Capitol Hill that reflect the reality of threat. And I can recall the bombing in the Senate corridor when I was just a brand new Member of the House of Representatives; I heard it in my apartment just a block or two away. And we started changing things the next morning and they've never really stopped; 9/11, of course, was the major catalyst of change here. I for one hope that we don't move toward a security fence as I envision it. To call something an aesthetically pleasing security fence, it's a little hard for me to understand where they're coming from with this. And is it not true that we're investing substantial sums of money on Capitol Hill—maybe this goes to the Architect—for the construction of these bollards and other things, acknowledging that traffic would be within this complex? Is this going to be another escape hood, where we'll say, well, now we're going to build the multi-million dollar fence, we probably shouldn't have built the bollards because there won't be that much traffic within the perimeter of the fence. I don't know who can answer that, but is anybody considering that aspect?

Chief GAINER. Well just, from my perspective, Senator, they're not incompatible. I guess all I'm suggesting, both here and in the House, and I did this in consultation with the Board, was to at least renew the discussion about this. I think it became most clear to me as we see the different bombings that are happening around the world. We have done a lot toward standoff on trucks and we've done a substantial amount for standoff on vehicles but unfortunately we see the suicide bombers, whether it's in England, Ireland, Israel, Palestine, Jordan, there are people bringing those packages and it is our concern that those small-type of explosives, which will only injure scores rather than the 9/11 type, is still a real danger. Frankly, as I listen to the 9/11 Committee, in their analysis, I just thought it was appropriate that we talk about this again because heaven forbid if something happens here on the Hill. Who knows what would have happened if 1 year before 9/11 someone would have come in and said maybe we ought to seal all the doors on airplanes. I know it seems bizarre, it doesn't look good, but I think we need to lay it out and decide whether we want to accept the risk or not.

Senator DURBIN. I think it's entirely appropriate that you raised the issue. But I'm struggling with the concept that says we will have a perimeter fence to limit access to the Capitol Hill area, and that means that we'll have fewer Capitol Hill police, for example, who have to worry about access points; there will be fewer access points with such a perimeter fence and yet we can still justify the bollards for traffic that's going to pass through this secure area? I

think those two things are inconsistent. Either a perimeter fence limits access and the bollards then become redundant or unnecessary or it doesn't limit access and you ask why you have it. So I need to work with you on that to understand this a little better.

Chief GAINER. I know we're just a long way from even touching on this, but if you can envision how the White House is, where there are bollards along Pennsylvania Avenue and the bordering streets and then the fence. The fence is really designed less for vehicles and more for people. Unlike the White House, the vision for this is where we would have sufficient openings and officers, so the access for people would be freeflowing. Then we would know anybody inside the perimeter of the Capitol would be completely bomb-free, weapons-free and then they'd have complete access to the entire Capitol.

Senator DURBIN. I guess my misunderstanding was I thought initially they'd said that the fence would be outside of the office building area.

Chief GAINER. That was one of the suggestions. Now again, it was at least one of the suggestions, you're correct.

Senator DURBIN. Before we get into all the details which would be a long discussion, I would just weigh in with Senator Campbell. I just hope that we don't reach that point where we're fencing off the Capitol area. I want to try to find some way to achieve security. Short of that, if it becomes a necessity then frankly we have to accept it.

SWORN PERSONNEL REQUESTED

May I ask you this. The 1,800 sworn personnel, 1,805, if I'm not mistaken that has been a goal for several years, that the Capitol Police would reach that level of sworn personnel.

Chief GAINER. Approximately, yes.

Senator DURBIN. Yes. And so the last several hundred that you're asking for this year, 200 or whatever it happens to be, is in pursuit of that goal that we set a number of years ago. Is that correct?

Chief GAINER. Correct.

RECRUITING OFFICERS

Senator DURBIN. There was a time not too long ago when I asked either you or your predecessor how many applications need to be taken before you find someone who can be qualified to serve as a Capitol policeman? What is the current ratio, do you know?

Chief GAINER. It's about 1 out of 10 and sometimes it goes 1 out of 18. We do have some great candidates who are applying and maybe the job market helps us in that regard, but it's about 1 in 10.

Senator DURBIN. And what are the major reasons why applicants are not accepted?

Chief GAINER. It is more a matter of being best qualified, it's really not that people are unqualified, it is in fact they are less qualified. We do the written test, the psychological and the background.

Senator DURBIN. Drug test?

Chief GAINER. Yes sir. And a polygraph.

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE QUESTIONS

Senator DURBIN. I see. I have some questions for the record but thank you very much, Chief.

Chief GAINER. Thank you, Senator.

Senator CAMPBELL. I have no further questions. There may be some written ones by other committee members. But I just want to say in parting it's been terrific working with both of you. Thank you.

Chief GAINER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. PICKLE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[The following questions were not asked at the hearing, but were submitted to the Department for response subsequent to the hearing:]

QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY SENATOR BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL

Question. In 2001, the Capitol Police developed a plan to remedy administrative deficiencies identified by the GAO. In January GAO completed its semi-annual review of the status of these issues. GAO found that "the overall pace of progress on USCP's strategic initiatives continues to be limited." Areas such as developing procurement policies and procedures, implementing a performance management system, and improving workforce planning were among the deficiencies noticed. Can you describe briefly how you will meet the milestones the Department itself set forth in 2001 to improve USCP administrative functions? How many new personnel are needed to implement these milestones? What is the status of hiring a new Chief Administrative Officer—a position that has been vacant for about three-quarters of a year?

Answer. Mr. Anthony Stamilio was selected for the CAO position and reported for work on May 4, 2004.

Significant progress has been made in administrative operations since the creation of the CAO in 2001. As reported by GAO in their semi-annual reviews of our administrative operations the following achievements have been made:

- Completed a strategic plan for fiscal years 2004 through 2008 for the Department, including departmental goals, objectives, and associated performance measures.
- We have stabilized and are making significant improvements in financial management, including the development and implementation of policies and procedures to control and guide the appropriate use of funds. We have requested the consolidation of our Salaries and General Expense appropriations and have requested funding for a new accounting system to continue the progress we have initiated.
- We have implemented a zero based budget approach for all Department operations to ensure budget requests are appropriately developed and justified each year.
- We have developed an IT systems architecture as a road map for the deployment of technology within the Department and have replaced and are in the process of replacing a significant number of antiquated systems throughout the Department as well as leveraging opportunities for systems augmentation and development for new operational and administrative capabilities.
- Hired contract and additional staff, including a new Director and senior staff in the Human Resources area to tackle the backlog of filling positions and policy development.

Areas that require additional work:

- The GAO has identified the employment of critical administrative staffing with the right mix of skills and competencies as the number one impediment to the USCP achieving its administrative goals.
- Other areas for improvement include further development and implementation of policies and procedures, completion of an IT acquisition strategy, implementation of a competency based performance management system, as well as developing a robust workforce planning capability.

We acknowledge that excessive operational demands and significant staffing shortages continue to consume critical administrative resources and impeded or slow progress toward reaching strategic goals and initiatives.

We also understand the decisions reached as part of the planning process needed to drive the focus of daily operations.

Question. The recent SAIC report identified several areas in USCP that had poor management practices, while in other areas it found “best practices” in managing work and resources. Why does this management imbalance exist in USCP and what is top management doing to increase the management capabilities of those areas deemed deficient?

Answer. The focus of the SAIC analysis was not to conduct a review of management practices and management of work but rather the methodology utilized in the USCP developed Staffing Analysis. Based on the review of the USCP methodology, SAIC determined that there were pockets of best practices in the organization. For example the Office of Information Systems (OIS) and Security Services Bureau were cited as a “best practices” because they utilized processes to depict workload and mapped workload to FTE requirements based on benchmarking, historical data, and/or subject matter expertise. While these areas were determined to be best practices, other areas were not able to document workload due to lack of data or lack of experience to create workload data (i.e., work had not previously been accomplished and workload data was not available). However, SAIC did indicate, “most offices under the Chief Administrative Officer are not positioned to operate as fully functioning support organizations.” SAIC went on to state, “most deficiencies have been recognized and steps are being taken to address them.” The USCP has initiated the process to contract with outside consultants to review selected operations, within fiscal constraints. Areas included in the current review processes include training services, internal affairs, budget, accounting, and selected areas of protective services.

Question. USCP asked for a considerable number of additional positions in the Comprehensive Staffing Analysis, yet SAIC could not validate the assumptions and criteria used by USCP for most of these positions. What is USCP doing to increase the assurance that the fiscal year 2005 positions can be justified and validated?

Answer. SAIC’s task was to review the methodology used to develop the USCP staffing needs. SAIC reviewed each position and provided a stoplight (red, yellow, green) indication as to whether appropriate supporting information was available to support the new positions. They did not perform workload analyses or comment on the need for the positions, but rather the level of supporting information they reviewed.

While the USCP does concur with many parts of the SAIC evaluation, there are also several areas where the USCP does not agree with SAIC’s findings. The inability of SAIC to fully validate the justifications of several positions, where the USCP thought it had strong justifications, is where most disagreements exist. The following outlines where some of the validation issues occurred:

- In several cases Bureaus/Offices were asked by SAIC to produce workload data in order to validate justifications. Such workload data was sometimes not available, or not as thorough as one would like it, primarily due to the fact that there has not been sufficient staff necessary to collect workload information, or because current systems are not able to capture the necessary data. In many offices the current staffing levels are only sufficient to perform the minimum requirements of the office, not allowing for the additional time necessary to collect workload data, manually if it is not available automatically.
- SAIC asked for outside staffing studies to confirm what Bureaus/Offices were telling them in terms of the need for additional staff. While the USCP acknowledges that such studies are very useful tools, and were used when available in putting together the Comprehensive Staffing Analysis, the Department has not had studies done on all areas of the Department, in large part due to costs associated with having such studies performed.
- In some instances Bureaus/Offices thought the information provided to SAIC logically showed the need for additional staff, while SAIC would not validate, or would only partially validate the request.
- SAIC was unable to validate a majority of personnel requests for administrative staff, stating that this was due to the lack of sufficient analysis of current and projected workloads. The Department is aware that there has been a great need for more administrative staff to alleviate higher-level staff from having to undertake administrative duties. To validate the staffing requests, SAIC stated that an in-depth workload analysis would need to be performed, thereby enabling accurate manpower requests. Once again, as stated above such studies are very costly.
- In the last GAO report reviewing progress being made in the areas under the USCP’s Chief Administrative Officer, several references were made about the great need that the USCP had in the management/administrative areas for ad-

ditional staff. The SAIC report on the other hand, could not fully validate many of the justifications presented for additional staff in those same areas, and which the Department believes are obvious staffing needs.

In addition to the additional information provided to both SAIC and GAO, the USCP has initiated the process of contracting with outside consultants to review selected operations, within fiscal constraints. Areas included in the current review process include training services, internal affairs, budget, accounting and selected areas of protective services.

Question. You have requested \$5.7 million for a "sworn pay scale adjustment." What is this and what are the implications if we are unable to fund this initiative?

Answer. The sworn pay scale adjustment rectifies inequities between grade and step levels in the sworn pay scale as a result of prior year adjustments to selected portions of the pay scale without appropriate consideration of the impact these adjustments had on the pay scale as a whole.

At the direction of the Appropriations Committees, a study was completed that recommended a correction of the current inequities. The study determined that it would cost \$11.4 million in fiscal year 2005 to implement the proposed pay schedule on October 1, 2004. The \$5.7 million included in the fiscal year 2005 request would provide for an April 1, 2004 implementation. An additional \$5.9 million (includes estimated 3.5 percent January 2006 COLA) would be required in fiscal year 2006 for the annualization of the adjustments.

QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY SENATOR RICHARD J. DURBIN

Question. What are the long term capital costs required for the Capitol Police?

Answer. Excluding facilities related items, most of the USCP capital costs relate to the replacement of systems or equipment such as vehicles, X-ray, magnetometers and cameras. The cyclical replacement costs of these capital items are included on an ongoing basis in our annual requests.

In the area of information systems modernization, the USCP currently operates a set of administrative systems including personnel, time and attendance, scheduling and inventory control. These mainframe systems are a heterogeneous collection of legacy mainframe software applications and commercial off-the-shelf software applications. The legacy systems are costly to operate and difficult to maintain. The infrastructure has been managed and developed on an as-needed basis, often tied to specific applications.

USCP has developed an Enterprise Architecture and IT Strategic Plan consistent with the modernization effort started in fiscal year 2001. These efforts target web-enabled, integrated applications running on one or more enterprise servers to include back-up servers soon to be located at the Alternate Computer Center (ACF).

The modernization effort project is large and enterprise-wide in scope. As such, there are multiple phases with multiple subprojects that are coupled together. Users have both functional and non-functional requirements that cross the enterprise IT Architecture, requiring close coordination and project management of multiple teams.

The Office of Information Systems (OIS) created a Business Systems Modernization Office (BSMO). The BSMO mission is to provide technical, functional, managerial, and planning IT support to the USCP in the development of an Enterprise Architecture (EA), development of a Transition Plan as well as oversight of the ongoing implementation efforts.

Phase 1 of the modernization effort provided for the implementation of Administrative systems. Time and Attendance, Personnel, Scheduling, Training and Fleet Management, as well as a Case Management System for Internal Affairs have been completed. All Law Enforcement Systems have been brought up to the same relational data base level.

Phase 2 will encompass the implementation of an Asset Management System integrated to the Financial Management System to include budget. A Data Warehouse and Operational Data Store has been designed and implementation is to take place in early fiscal year 2005.

Phase 3 will occur in fiscal year 2006 and provide for an Executive Information System (EIS) to assist in the recovery and use of data and information as necessary.

One significant item that is on the horizon is the replacement of the radio systems. A new digital radio system, which will be used by the USCP and other Legislative Branch entities, is roughly, and preliminarily, estimated at \$30 million. A contract is being negotiated with the Navy Aviation Systems Command to assess and make recommendations for the radio communications system upgrades. This study will include firmer estimated costs for their proposed recommendations. Over

the past several years, we have been working closely with the Architect of the Capitol in the development of a facilities master plan for the USCP. The potential cost of new facilities and the cost of facility renovation are best addressed by the Architect of the Capitol.

Question. Chief Gainer, could you please explain why you need \$8.1 million for replacement of escape hoods?

Answer. When the current escape hoods were purchased they were the best on the market. However, the current masks are difficult to put on and it is impossible to communicate when they are donned. In October 2003, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) published national standards for escape hoods, and all further testing and approval will be accomplished against those standards. At this time, several companies have submitted escape hoods to NIOSH for testing under the new standards and product approvals are expected to occur during the second half of 2004. Approved escape hoods are expected to be available for purchase in 2005. It is anticipated that the escape hoods that meet the new standards will be easier for adults and children to wear and will solve the communications issue. If as anticipated new masks are on the market in 2005 that meet the NIOSH standards, a preliminary decision was made to replace all the escape hoods rather than doing it in a piecemeal fashion and give someone an older, less viable hood. The cost of replacing all 45,000 escape hoods is estimated to be \$8.1 million.

Question. What training requirements are not being met at the FLETC facility at Cheltenham?

Answer. The USCP is currently conducting follow-on basic and in-service training at the FLETC facility at Cheltenham, Maryland. We are also negotiating a MOA with the FLETC to utilize the firearms range for re-certifications, and will utilize the driving range when it is complete this fall. Some of our long distance rifle training needs, which are best conducted in an outside environment, will not be met at the Cheltenham facility. Also, basic recruit training, which is conducted by the FLETC in Georgia, was never intended to move to Cheltenham and will not be relocated to the Cheltenham facility. We continue to work with FLETC regarding issues on availability of the facilities as well as funding requirements, and we expect to have a Memorandum of Agreement finalized soon. We have also been working with the Appropriations Committees regarding the resolution of the issues.

Question. What is the cost for building a separate firing range for the Capitol Police?

Answer. The Architect of the Capitol's budget request contains \$12 million for the design and construction of a 36-point 50-yard underground firing range. As conceived, the range would be co-located and built with the Off-site Delivery Facility. If the scheduling requirements, addressed in the above question, for all USCP firearms training and re-certification can be accommodated by the FLETC, the USCP will not require the facility requested by the AOC. However, if the facility availability issues are not worked out, the construction of a new firing range is critical to the operations of the USCP.

Question. It was my understanding that the Capitol Police have free use of the firing range at Cheltenham. Why do you need a separate firing range?

Answer. Our primary issue regarding the use of FLETC firing range at Cheltenham is one of access and accommodating our needs for firearms training and re-certification. As indicated above, the original partnership with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) on the new training facility in Cheltenham, Maryland included 26 agencies. With the creation of Department of Homeland Security and subsequent merger with Treasury/FLETC, the facility now serves 70 plus agencies but the size of the range has not grown proportionally. If our training needs cannot be met by the FLETC, the construction of a new firing range is critical to our operations.

FLETC has indicated that it is expecting a reimbursement for firing range use by all federal agencies and we have included funds for this purpose in our fiscal year 2005 budget request.

Question. What are the costs associated with the Capitol Police having access to the Cheltenham facility? Are these costs being covered by the Capitol Police or by the Department of Homeland Security?

Answer. Although we are still working with the FLETC on access and reimbursement issues, based on reimbursement cost rates FLETC provided in the Fall of 2003, we estimated it will cost the USCP \$1,032,000 in fiscal year 2005 to cover all firearms training. This amount is included in our fiscal year 2005 budget request. However, we now understand that FLETC may be lowering their rates. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the USCP and FLETC is being negotiated and it should be completed soon. This MOA will spell out who will pay for

what cost and when cost will begin being paid by the USCP. In addition to the firing range reimbursements, these costs will include the operational and maintenance costs of Building 31, the primary training facility that we occupy, and any other resources utilized by the USCP at the Cheltenham facility. The FLETC has estimated the cost to be \$281,400 for fiscal year 2004. FLETC will also expect reimbursement for the driving range when it opens and a daily per person user fee, currently set at \$5, for the use of their other facilities at Cheltenham. We do anticipate reimbursing the FLETC for the operational and maintenance, driving range and other facility usage fees.

Question. What is the status of filling the vacancy of the Chief Administrative Officer?

Answer. Mr. Anthony Stamilio was selected for the CAO position and reported for work on May 4, 2004.

Question. What are your priorities for improving administrative operations of the Capitol Police?

Answer. Our first priority is to fill all the vacant civilian positions including the 75 new positions that were provided in fiscal year 2004. We have hired outside consultants to jumpstart our hiring and human resources operations. We are committed to having substantially all these positions filled by the end of the fiscal year. As part of our strategic planning effort we have developed performance plans and measures to continue the improvement of our administrative operations. We continue to move forward with our information technology systems modernization related to law enforcement databases and administrative systems as well as modernizing human resources and continuing with improvements with financial management operations.

Question. We recently received SAIC's evaluation of your Comprehensive Staffing Analysis. It seems that the Capitol Police could benefit from the development of a comprehensive manpower plan that would determine the number and kinds of positions, both existing and new, needed to meet the requirements identified in the threat and vulnerability assessments as well as the strategic plan. Are there any efforts underway to undertake the preparation of such a plan? What would be required to produce a manpower plan that would clearly relate manpower requirements to a congressionally approved strategic plan that clearly ties to threat and vulnerabilities?

Answer. One of the priorities of the new CAO is to take a strategic view of human capital management. Based on GAO recommendations, we are currently exploring the benefits and processes of strategic human capital planning, synchronized with the USCP Strategic Plan. The threat environment, evolving tactics and technology will drive requirements for future manpower adjustments. Our tentative plan is to assess functional slices of the organization in light of the above "drivers" to determine the manner in which the organization will operate in the future. The manpower requirements, to include numbers and skill sets will evolve from this analysis. Initial assessments should begin in fiscal year 2005.

Question. Do you feel that a perimeter security fence is a good idea? Do you think it should include both the Capitol and the office buildings?

Answer. All of our major security surveys (Secret Service, DTRA, SAIC) since 1983 have raised the issue of a perimeter fence to enhance Capitol Complex security. Strictly from a security standpoint, we agree that a fence is a good idea. Based on the current environment and events that are happening around the world, we believe that the perimeter security fence issue should be revisited and that here should be a discussion on its merits and whether we want to accept the risks as they exist today. This discussion should include a perimeter security fence around the Capitol and the office buildings. We realize that other factors, including perceived openness and cost, need to be a part of this discussion. The resolution of this issue is directly related to the manpower requirements of the USCP.

Question. Are you working on a plan to ease staff entry into the Senate buildings? I have noticed on many occasions that the lines are out the doors and on the sidewalks at many of the Hart and Dirksen Building entrances.

Answer. We have recently made several changes to reduce the line at entrances to the Senate buildings. We are designating several entrances as "staff only" until 10:00 a.m. and outside officers are directing visitors to lower volume entrances. We will continue to monitor the situation and make adjustments are needed.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECESS

Senator CAMPBELL. If there is nothing further, the subcommittee will next meet at 11 a.m., Thursday, April 8 to hear from the Secretary of the Senate and the Architect of the Capitol.

[Whereupon, at 3 p.m., Wednesday, March 31, the subcommittee was recessed, to reconvene at 11 a.m., Thursday, April 8.]